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COORDINATION QUESTIONS: SYSTEM-WIDE PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The System-wide Plan of Action is structured to highlight certain major activities of the United Nations system, which on the one hand address economic recovery and development and on the other heighten global awareness by the international community of the economic crisis situation in Africa. It also summarizes the contributions of each of the United Nations organs, agencies and bodies in their respective areas in accordance with the priorities of the Plan. In this regard, it encompasses the financial institutions and the operational funds and programmes of the United Nations as well as the technical cooperation activities of the specialized agencies of the system. Moreover, it attempts to identify specific resources which organs, agencies and bodies will devote to the implementation of the Plan. Arrangements for continuous monitoring and review of the Plan's implementation are also suggested.

Chapter II is divided into three parts; the first provides an assessment of the socio-economic situation in Africa, the second the general orientation of the Plan and the third the Plan's objectives. The section on the assessment of the socio-economic situation in Africa outlines the various factors that are hampering development, such as low rates of domestic savings and investment, structural rigidities of national economies, management deficiencies, a heavy debt burden, inadequate resource flows and a continuous decline in the demand for Africa's export commodities. Erratic climatic conditions further compound the problem.

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The general orientation of the Plan is provided by such broad mandates as the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted by the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, and Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. More specifically, the Plan's orientation is defined by the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, which identifies the commitments undertaken by the African countries and by the international community as well as the role of the United Nations system in promoting growth and development in Africa.

The objectives of the Plan are to provide a dynamic and flexible framework for concerted and coordinated action by the United Nations system to assist Africa in achieving sustained and sustainable growth and development in the 1990s and beyond, assist in the creation of a more supportive international economic environment for economic growth and social development, assist in the restructuring of African economies, help promote employment generation, channel the sectoral expertise of the United Nations organs, agencies and bodies in efforts to foster African recovery and development, and enhance global awareness of the continent's economic crisis.

Chapter III describes the overall strategy of the Plan, which seeks to maximize the contribution of the United Nations system to African countries and the international community in their joint efforts to realize the objectives of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The priority objectives of the New Agenda can be summarized as the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy, reduce their vulnerability to external constraints and increase their dynamism, internalize the process of development and enhance self-reliance. Accordingly, the Plan's strategy is to strengthen the response of the United Nations system to the objectives of the New Agenda by identifying priority areas for action by the system in support of the efforts of the African countries. These priority areas fall under three broad categories: (a) actions to strengthen the efforts of African countries; (b) actions to assist in the creation of a more supportive external environment and the removal of external constraints; and (c) actions to create global awareness of the critical socio-economic and environmental situation in Africa. The issues, priorities and goals and the current and future activities undertaken by organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system in these three priority areas are described in chapter IV.

Chapter V provides a picture of resource allocations by the organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system. The information shows that in 1990 and 1991, $9 billion and $10.9 billion, respectively, were allocated by the reporting organizations of the United Nations system to activities relating to Africa. The figures for the current biennium, 1992-1993 (excluding IMF and WFP), indicate that $7.2 billion amd $8.1 billion were

allocated and $8 billion are projected for each year of the next biennium, 1994-1995. Of the lending organizations, the World Bank has been committing approximately $4 billion a year to African countries. In the case of the non-lending institutions reporting figures, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, IFAD, FAO and WHO have provided the largest share of the resources transferred to African countries during the last biennium as well as those committed for the current and next bienniums.

Chapter VI describes the various forms of cooperation and coordination that will be used to promote and further enhance a collaborative approach by the United Nations system in the implementation of the Plan. Examples are the use of existing ACC machinery, including a number of ACC bodies such as the ACC Task Force on Rural Development and the ACC Subcommittee on Nutrition, which would provide adequate opportunities for close consultations and cooperation among the organs, agencies and bodies of the system, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) and the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) to develop coordinated approaches on the programmatic and operational aspects of the Plan's implementation; annual meetings between the United Nations system and the Organization of African Unity to review progress in various cooperation prorammes; and normal consultations between agencies, which would provide opportunities for further policy dialogue.

The final chapter deals with the review and monitoring of the Plan. It is envisaged that the working group of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development will soon finalize the agreement on the terms of reference of the Task Force which include, inter alia, appropriate monitoring processes. Reporting of follow-up action to the Plan to respective governing bodies will be undertaken by the secretariats concerned, according to their established arrangements.

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I. BACKGROUND

1. At its thirtieth session the CPC recommended that the Secretary-General, as Chairman of ACC, should prepare a system-wide plan of action for African economic recovery and development and submit it to the thirty-second session of the Committee in 1992. This recommendation was later endorsed by both the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1990/83) and the General Assembly. A draft of the framework of the plan of action was prepared and submitted to the CPC for review at its thirty-first session. The framework was noted by the CPC, and became the basis on which the Secretary-General prepared the plan of action with inputs and contributions provided by the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system. The draft of the plan benefitted from review by relevant ACC bodies and the United Nations Task Force for African Economic Recovery and Development.

(a) Some major considerations

2. In requesting the preparation of the plan of action, the CPC did not specify the time-frame for its implementation. However, following the adoption of the New Agenda for African development in the 1990s by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, it was considered appropriate that the plan of action should have the same time-frame as the New Agenda, that is, up to the year 2000. The activities in the first two bienniums of the plan of action are described in more detail, whereas for subsequent years the proposed activities are of a more indicative nature.

3. The present system-wide plan of action on African economic recovery and development does not present in detail those activities relating to Africa that are already encompassed by other system-wide medium-term plans, and plans of action such as those on the advancement of women, drug control and environment and development. Within the framework of such programmes and plans, the United Nations system is already and/or will be carrying out activities relevant to Africa.

4. The New Agenda envisages a major role for the United Nations system in its implementation. The plan of action is designed for the United Nations system to fulfil this role. It attempts to present a broad picture of what the system as a whole will do in the 1990s, and more specifically over the next two programme budget bienniums (1992-1993 and 1994-1995) so that different organizations are able to place their own role into perspective and to see where additional efforts are required and where activities can be improved through more effective coordination. The plan should not, however, be seen as static, but as a dynamic and flexible instrument which must evolve in response to changing conditions and policies both within Africa and in the international economic environment.

5. In presenting an overview of the system's activities relating to Africa, the plan should facilitate the defining of key policy issues and priorities and help identify the gaps where planned activities are not responsive to high priority needs and in which better coordination seems to be called for.

6. While in a decentralized system such as the family of United Nations organizations, these objectives may be difficult to realize, the further development and refining of this planning instrument can be useful in achieving a vision and a long-term perspective for the activities of the system as a whole that are grounded in a prioritized strategic agenda reflecting a recognition of the resource constraints and the hard choices that need to be made.

7. The intergovernmental review and guidance of this initial draft would provide a sound basis for such further development and refinement as a continuous process. The purpose of the system-wide plan of action should be to further the efforts of the United Nations system to assist Africa in realizing these objectives through a concerted and coordinated effort by the system. This will require renewed commitment on the part of all relevant organizations to increase their efforts and do so with greater effectiveness and on a system-wide basis.

(b) Structure of the plan

8. The plan of action highlights certain major activities of the United Nations system which on the one hand address economic recovery and development and on the other heighten global awareness by the international community of the economic crisis situation in Africa. It also summarizes the contributions of each of the United Nations organs, agencies and bodies in their respective areas in accordance with the priorities of the plan. In this regard, it encompasses the financial institutions, the operational funds and programmes of the United Nations as well as the technical cooperation activities of the specialized agencies of the system. In addition, the plan of action attempts to identify specific resources which organs, agencies and bodies will devote to the implementation of the plan. Finally, it suggests arrangements for continuous monitoring of the implementation of the plan.

9. Section II contains a general orientation and objectives of the plan. It provides a brief assessment of the socio-economic situation in Africa as well as the objectives of the system-wide plan of action. Section III defines the overall strategy and priorities of the plan. Section IV provides information, in broad terms on the programmes and activities of the relevant organs, agencies and bodies of the system in each of the priority areas of African economic recovery and development. In doing so the plan attempts to identify current and planned activities relating to the economic recovery and development of Africa, and in some cases, additional activities, if additional resources were to be made available. It also seeks to indicate, wherever possible, the resources available and to be made available to fund these activities. Section V provides information on the overall picture of resource allocations to Africa by relevant parts of the United Nations system; section VI deals with issues of coordination and section VII with issues relating to the review and monitoring of the implementation of the plan of action.

10. There are, however, general constraints that should be noted in looking at the resource information contained in section V. First, this type of information is not available in a uniform and standardized format on a system-wide basis. Secondly, in the case of many programmes, projects and activities with a world-wide or interregional scope it is difficult to identify components that are specific to one region or another. Thirdly, in a number of areas, the information is not complete, and particularly in the case of future years, a number of organizations, particularly those that depend on voluntary contributions, are unable to provide indications of projected resources likely to be available for the latter years of the 1990s.

II. GENERAL ORIENTATION AND OBJECTIVES

(a) Assessment of the socio-economic situation in Africa

11. The 1980s were generally considered, in all economic aspects, as the decade of retrogression in Africa. Not only economic performance was disappointing, as reflected in an average annual increase in the overall gross domestic product (GDP) of only 2.3 per cent, as compared with a population growth of over 3 per cent per annum, but most economic and social infrastructures substantially deteriorated. The standard of living of more than half a billion people living in sub-Saharan Africa is no higher today than it was 30 years ago. The number in absolute poverty is increasing faster in Africa than anywhere else in the world. As a response to this situation, the thirteenth special session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UNPAAERD). However, the final review of UNPAAERD which was carried out by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, concluded that economic recovery in Africa was far from being achieved, and sustained development in the whole region was still to be generated.

12. In addition to well known endogenous factors including especially low rates of domestic savings and investment, fundamental structural rigidities of African economies and deficiencies in management particularly with respect to public sector enterprises; and erratic climatic conditions, the consistent slow growth of output in Africa in the 1980s could also be attributed to the persistently unfavourable international economic environment. Prominent among external factors hampering development are: the debt overhang and the heavy burden of its servicing; inadequate resource flows; and the continuous fall in the prices of and demand for Africa's main primary export commodities.

13. While some marginal improvement in the overall economic performance had taken place in 1990 with an annual average growth of GDP of 3.2 per cent for the region as a whole, the overall regional output in Africa grew only by 2.3 per cent in 1991, thus suggesting that the trend of the 1980s, of decreasing per capita income had not been reversed fully. These average growth rates do not however reflect the considerable variation in the economic performance of individual countries, groups of countries or subregions. External factors also remained basically unchanged with, for example, an

outstanding external debt of US$ 275.1 billion by the end of 1991, or 72.8 per cent of regional GDP, and a debt service of US$ 26.3 billion or 27.5 per cent of export earnings.

14. A drought of unprecedented proportions is currently ravaging the ten SADCC countries and South Africa in the Southern African region, threatening the lives of 18 million people. Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa are among the most affected areas in productive terms. The drought has arrived in areas already suffering from food deficits, compounding natural disasters with the consequences of prolonged war and civil strife, as well as countries that used to be surplus food producers and net exporters. The deterioration of the environment, the excessive dependence on rain-fed agriculture, the structural constraints to rural development and the inadequate physical infrastructures of the area make the present crisis more difficult to address.

15. Simultaneously, the 1980s saw a continued growth of Africa's population posing serious challenges to the continent's prospects for economic recovery and development. Africa's population growth and fertility rates are the highest in the world. According to the United Nations population estimates and projections, the region's population, estimated at 224 million in 1950 and 486 million in 1981, increased to more than 600 million by the end of 1991 and is expected to exceed 800 million by the year 2000. The rapid population growth, more than 3 per cent annually, stems from a combination of high crude birth rates with declining but still relatively high crude death rates.

16. During the 1980s and in 1990-1991, social and human conditions have continued to deteriorate. In 1990, the ILO estimated open unemployment at 30 million people, while according to WHO, diseases which had been eradicated and controlled in the late 1970s, are now resurfacing, thus adding to the growing threat to human resources caused by the spreading of the AIDS virus. Overall it was estimated that about 335 million Africans were living in absolute poverty in 1990 out of an estimated total population of 642.1 million.

17. African countries, as well as their development partners, have endeavoured to reverse the economic decline of the region. On the part of African countries, such efforts were reflected in the large number of countries - about 30 - which embarked on structural adjustment programmes, generally supported by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Recent evidence provided by the World Bank suggests that countries pursuing structural adjustment programmes have experienced some revival of economic growth. For the 20 "core" countries that participated in the SPA, economic growth has increased significantly during the last part of the decade. In addition, the export performance and investment levels in many of these countries have improved.

18. Economic reform programmes have also been changing over time. The underlying objective of restoring the conditions for growth and strengthening the foundations for longer term social and economic development is increasingly being sought, not merely through macroeconomic policy reforms, but by a greater emphasis on policies to improve productivity, liberalise

trade, strengthen the financial sector, restructure public enterprises and improve performance in key sectors, especially agriculture and industry. By the late 1980s, much more emphasis was being placed on achieving sustainable long-term growth, which requires better institutional capacity and governance, more efficient public expenditures and investments and greater human resource development.

19. Reform programmes are also focusing more on the social impact of adjustment with increasing support for reforms of social policies and specific interventions to mitigate the short-term burdens of adjustment on the poor, and the use of project and social sector loans to achieve major social objectives. Adjustment programmes increasingly specify explicit social policy reforms, which often target social services to the poor and vulnerable groups. Further progress needs to be made however, to build on these efforts.

20. On the part of the international community, efforts generally aimed at alleviating the debt burden of debt-distressed countries through, inter alia, such initiatives as the one that was agreed upon by the Group of the Seven (G7) at their Toronto meeting in 1988. Unfortunately, criteria set in Toronto have tended to limit the number of beneficiary countries. Moreover, economic reform programmes of African countries have not always received the necessary support in terms of adequate resource flows, especially during the UNPAAERD period of 1986-1990. More importantly, African countries' own export earnings have remained grossly inadequate to meet the financing needs of their development.

21. Overall, while many African countries have continued to experience negative performance, especially in terms of per capita income, there are positive signs for brighter perspectives. Indeed, it should be stressed that for historical and social reasons, Africa faces a difficult development challenge. After the economic decline of the 1980s, most African countries seem increasingly resolved to implement reforms that could be a basis for sustainable growth.

22. There is also a trend for the creation of a more conducive domestic environment for the successful implementation of policy and economic reforms. A major aspect of this trend is the democratisation process with its implications in terms of greater popular participation in the development process, good governance, accountability and transparency. Another aspect is the search for increased economic cooperation and regional integration.

(b) General orientation

23. The general orientation of the plan is provided by such broad mandates as the Declaration on the Revitalisation of Growth in the World Economy and in particular the Development of Developing Countries adopted by the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the Cartegena Commitment of UNCTAD VIII and Agenda 21 emerging from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. More specifically, the plan's

orientation is defined by the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s which identifies the commitments undertaken by the African countries and by the international community as well as the role of the United Nations system in promoting growth and development in Africa.

24. In addition, the World Bank initiative on "Sub-Saharan Africa - from crisis to sustainable growth: a long-term perspective study", endorsed both by Africa and the donor community at Maastrict in 1991, has provided the strategic framework for the preparation of national-level long-term perspective plans for a large number of African countries and thus provides an important basis for coordinating the efforts of individual African Governments, the specialized agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions.

25. Revival of development in Africa is the principal task ahead. To this end, sound national economic policies and reforms will need to be supported by effective international assistance. African countries require assistance in the formulation and implementation of development strategies for restructuring and diversifying their economies, inter alia, by developing their human resources taking into account the social and environmental dimensions and the need for popular participation in the development process. The system-wide plan of action seeks to establish a coherent framework for the contribution of the United Nations system to this process.

(c) Objectives of the system-wide plan of action

26. The objectives of the system-wide plan of action are to:

- Provide a dynamic and flexible framework for concerted and coordinated action by the United Nations system to assist Africa in achieving sustained and sustainable growth and development in the 1990s and beyond in accordance with Africa's own regional strategies and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, as well as other documents referred to in paragraphs 23 and 24 above;

- Assist in the creation of a more supportive international economic environment for economic growth and social development of the countries of the African region;

- Assist African Governments in their efforts to transform the structure of their economies, promote economic integration, collective self-reliance, popular participation and adequate human and institutional capacities for poverty alleviation and sustained development including efforts to develop human resources and halt the degradation of the environment;

- Assist in employment creation as a measure to increase both national wealth and family incomes by overcoming the waste of human resources represented by widespread unemployment and underemployment;

- Channel the sectoral expertise of the United Nations organs, agencies and bodies in a systematic and coordinated manner and to commit resources to stimulate and support national and international efforts aimed at fostering African economic recovery and development;

- Enhance the global awareness of the continent's economic crisis, and of the far-reaching efforts and reforms being undertaken by African countries, with international support, to revive their economies.

27. The African countries are pursuing their efforts at the national level for economic recovery and development. These national efforts are derived from such basic strategies as the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and Final Act of Lagos (FAL); the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population, January 1984; the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP); the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development, the treaty of the African Economic Community signed by the African Heads of State and Government in June 1991 in Abuja, Nigeria, the Regional Programme of Action of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN, 1985), the Agenda for Action for achieving Sustainable Development of Africa (Kampala Conference, 1989), the Bamako Commitment to Sustainable Development (OAU PanAfrican Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, Bamako, 1991), the African Common Positon and UNCED/Agenda 21 on Environment and Development.

III. THE OVERALL STRATEGY

28. The overall strategy of the plan of action is to maximize the contribution of the United Nations system to African countries and the international community in their joint efforts to realise the objectives of the New Agenda for African Development in the 1990s.

29. The priority objectives of the New Agenda can be summarized as the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of the African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy, reduce their vulnerability to external constraints, and increase their dynamism, internalize the process of development and enhance self-reliance. It seeks to achieve the desirable objective of an average real growth rate of at least 6 per cent per annum of gross national product (GNP) throughout the period of the New Agenda.

30. The New Agenda also accords special attention to governance, democratic participation in development, the human condition and increased productive employment, and aims at rapid progress towards the achievement of human-oriented goals by the year 2000 in the areas of life expectancy, integration of women in development, child and maternal mortality, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, basic education and shelter.

31. In recognition of the fact that peace is an indispensable prerequisite for development, the New Agenda calls for the encouragement and pursuit of

peace initiatives that would bring an end to war, destabilisation and internal conflicts in order to facilitate the creation of optimal conditions for development. Thus, resources freed from military expenditures can be redirected to socio-economic growth and development.

32. These objectives are sought to be achieved, on the one hand, by the commitment and responsibility of the African countries to implement policies for the transformation of the structures of their economies; to persist with necessary reforms; improve economic management and mobilisation of domestic resources; promote regional and subregional cooperation and integration; intensify the democratisation process, improve human rights and the living standards of their people, including the reduction of poverty; create an enabling environment that attracts foreign and domestic investment, encourages savings, induces the return of flight capital and the full participation of the private sector and entrepreneurs; promote sustainable development at all levels of socio-economic activity; systematically integrate population factors into the development process; continue to pursue policies and strategies in the agricultural and rural development sectors in order to fully integrate rural economies with their national development; reduce unemployment and underemployment; and to achieve food security and strengthen self-reliance in food supplies and consumption.

33. On the other hand, in recognition of the fact that these objectives cannot be realized by African countries without international support, the New Agenda commits the international community to assist Africa in its efforts to achieve accelerated growth and human-centered development on a sustained and sustainable basis. It calls upon the international community, in support of Africa's economic reform efforts, to seek to find durable solutions to the African debt crisis, including initiatives already taken and additional debt-relief measures in favour of the poorest, most indebted countries that go beyond Toronto terms and other measures identified in the New Agenda. It also contains commitments by the international community to pursue its efforts to provide additional resource flows to Africa, which will complement domestic efforts and financial resources, bearing in mind the targets referred to in the New Agenda.

34. With regard to commodities, the New Agenda affirms the commitment of the international community, particularly the major trading partners, to grant improved market access to Africa's exports, and where appropriate, to examine the means of improving the scope and operations of compensating financing schemes; and make renewed efforts at international cooperation among producers and consumers of commodities of particular importance to Africa.

35. Furthermore, in the New Agenda, the international community recognizes that additional resources will be required to support Africa's diversification programmes, including development of specific infrastructural and support services and the development of information activities and related services for diversification programmes and projects.

36. On trade, the international community committed itself in the New Agenda to a substantial reduction in or removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers affecting African exports, particularly of processed, semi-processed and manufactured products and to ensure continued preferential arrangements enjoyed by African exports.

37. The International community also affirmed its intention to support African countries' efforts to establish the African Economic Community and strengthen the functioning of their existing subregional organisations. It also agreed to give support to regional programmes aimed at reversing and halting the degradation of the African environment and natural resource base essential to development that is environmentally sound and sustainable.

38. The strategy of the plan of action is to strengthen the response of the United Nations system to the objectives of the New Agenda by identifying priority areas for action by the system in support of the efforts of the African countries and of the international community to promote sustained long-term development with poverty alleviation and human resource development as key objectives. The priority areas fall under three broad categories:

A. Actions to strengthen the efforts of African countries

39. Priority areas under this category should, inter alia, cover the following:

(i) Restructuring and strengthening of the African economies including efforts at diversification;

(ii) Achieving food self-sufficiency and food security;

(iii) Protection of the environment;

(iv) Human development, poverty alleviation and popular participation;

(v) Strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and integration;

(vi) Specific programmes.

B. Actions to assist in the creation of a more supportive external environment and the removal of external constraints

40. Support under this category should be given inter alia to the following priority areas:

(i) Resolution of the external debt problem;

(ii) Resolution of commodity problems including problems of diversification;

(iii) Improving access to markets;

(iv) Enhancing resource flows to Africa.

C. Actions to create global awareness of the critical socio-economic and environmental situation in Africa

41. Emphasis should be placed on the need and means to generate greater awareness of Africa's socio-economic situation and commitment by the international community to contribute to the achievement of sustained and sustainable growth and development in Africa.

IV. PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE PRIORITY AREAS

A. ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE EFFORTS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES

(i) Restructuring and strengthening of the African economies including efforts at diversification

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

42. As stated earlier, the African countries are engaged in wide-ranging economic reforms. Maintaining this momentum and intensifying the process remain a top priority. These economic reforms should aim at both short-term and long-term socio-economic transformation by making national economies more responsive to market-oriented incentives. They also entail a financial management component which focuses on the development of the capacity of the African countries to design and implement sound financial management policies and systems. Specific support activities should therefore include analyses of the factors influencing the critical economic situation in Africa, with a view to identifying inter alia actions by the organizations of the United Nations system in support of economic reforms in African countries.

43. One of the basic problems of many countries of the African region lies in the structural weakness of their economies. Most of these countries are single-resource economies dependent on the export of agriculture and mineral products. Diversification is therefore one of the keys to overcoming these structural problems. Assistance by the organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system should be provided to develop appropriate investment and trade policies and programmes as a package in the context of economic reform covering such issues as research and development, diversification of the production structure, infrastructure and market development. The United Nations system should also assist in strengthening the efforts to create the technological capacity needed to overcome the constraints that usually handicap diversification.

44. One of the major needs facing the African economies is the need to catalyse and support private sector development. The key issues in this

regard are the regulatory and legal environments, privatization, financial sector restructuring and the development of human resource skills for improved management, industrial competitiveness and entrepreneurial development. A key related objective is to channel increased external capital resources into private investment. Governments need to be assisted in carrying out their policies and programmes aimed at privatization of Government-owned assets especially in the industrial sector. Assistance should also be provided in helping to create an environment more conducive for entrepreneurship and private sector development.

45. The problem of management and the performance of the public sector as well as the weakness of local institutions constitute important constraints to sustainable development in the region. One of the fundamental issues is how to balance the respective role of the State and markets in both the production of goods and the delivery of services while creating an enabling environment for economic growth. The aim of public enterprise reform in Africa is to reduce the fiscal burden of the sector, improve the performance of public enterprises and create an enabling environment to support the development of the private sector. International assistance will be needed to support the efforts of the Governments to achieve these objectives.

46. The question of capacity-building is critical to the efforts of African countries to restructure and diversify their economies. Capacity-building is related to such aspects as policy formulation, planning and programming institution-building and an adequate information base. Efforts should be focused on improving the capabilities of African Governments to manage their own economies and to tailor economic reform and human resource development policies to meet the needs of a rapidly growing population and a changing demographic structure. The United Nations system should provide African countries with advisory services and technical cooperation in support of these efforts.

47. The restructuring and diversification efforts would have to encompass the key sectors of the economy including agriculture industry, transport and communications and human development. In the agricultural sector, weak production bases and supportive institutional structures, poor physical infrastructures and erratic weather all combine to result in low productivity, food shortages and dependence on imports and population migration from the rural to the urban areas. Efforts would need to be made to raise agricultural productivity, food production, and to establish better linkages with the other sectors of the economy.

48. Transport and communication sectors remained inadequately developed despite laudable efforts made within the framework of the first United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (1980-1990). This situation impairs to a great extent the development of all segments of the economy of most African countries.

49. There is therefore a real need to support Member States' efforts in rehabilitating the degraded infrastructures and to plan and implement the development of national and regional transport and communication networks.

50. The industrial sector which had been given the priority it deserves in the early 1960s did not contribute significantly to substitute imports as expected. Thus, in view of its vital role in the transformation and diversification of the African economies, continued efforts are needed to restructure and improve the existing industrial infrastructures and to promote those industries which could effectively give a real comparative advantage to Africa's manufacturing sector and especially the agro-based industries. A determined effort will need to be made through the creation of an enabling environment in which vibrant and competitive industries can develop, particularly in the private sector.

51. All sectors of the African economies suffered from the lack of and the misuse of human resources. More especially, the lack of skilled manpower prevented Africa from developing and adapting the technologies required for increasing productivity in key sectors and for maintaining infrastructures. Therefore, the United Nations system should fully endorse the human-centred development strategies adopted by African Governments and back their efforts in promoting the development of human resources.

(b) Current and planned activities

52. In response to these issues, the different parts of the United Nations system are undertaking the activities outlined below.

United Nations

53. The activities covered here encompass the role of the Department of Economic and Social Development and the United Nations Office at Vienna. The issue of African economic recovery and development will remain a priority for the United Nations during the period of the medium-term plan for 1992-1997. Planned activities are of a coordinating and catalytic nature and will focus on mobilizing increased resource flows to Africa, ensuring an effective response by the United Nations system to the African situation, increasing public awareness of the problems there and of actions needed to improve the situation.

54. Specific activities will include analyses of the global factors influencing the critical economic and social situation in Africa, relating to the restructuring and diversification of African economies, including the mobilization of domestic financial resources. These activities will also cover the monitoring and assessment of economic policy reforms and the overall economic and social development in Africa.

55. A necessary condition to strengthen African economies is the improvement of management capabilities of government and other relevant institutions. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development will continue to assist the African countries in this area, through technical cooperation activities, through projects, advice and other forms of technical assistance in such activities as macroeconomic management, public finance, development

planning, public administration, regional planning and local administration, investment planning, information systems for policy-making, statistics and demographic analysis.

56. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development will continue to provide a broad range of technical assistance services to African countries on policies for foreign investment and transfer of technology including the following: (1) advice on the formulation of policies and on the establishment of a regulatory and institutional framework for foreign direct investment; (2) training workshops for public officials on the effective implementation of investment policies, on the screening and monitoring of foreign direct investments and on the negotiation of investment agreements; (3) economic and financial assessment of investment projects, evaluation of investment agreements, and assistance in the negotiation of such agreements; (4) advice on the privatization of State enterprises and on the role of foreign direct investment in such privatization, as well as the more general area of entrepreneurship and private-sector development; (5) support to institutions of higher learning to assist in training personnel for both the public and private sectors on all aspects of foreign direct investment and transfer of technology; and (6) the establishment of databases of foreign direct investment, including the provision of information and corporate profiles on prospective investors as well as of market information on particular products.

57. Technical assistance programmes will be provided in these areas as well as a number of additional areas of the liberalization of investment policies both of a general and sectoral nature, institutional reform, and human resource development.

58. A significant contribution in the social area would be to promote and support a new and effective partnership between the public and private sectors in respect to social security and social welfare on one hand, and the formal and informal sectors on the other hand. In this regard the United Nations will undertake the following activities in cooperation with relevant parts of the system:

- Research activities on indigenous forms of solidarity in Africa and social security programmes, and the way they have been affected by the economic crisis, with a view to suggesting innovative policy measures;

- Organization of national training workshops to strengthen national capacity to assess the social impact of economic adjustment;

- Convening a regional conference preparatory to the International Year of the Family (1994) for Africa;

- Convening of an expert group meeting on establishment of an effective partnership between the State sector and indigenous systems of social welfare and social security in Africa, with

special emphasis on family and other kinship support system and local community self-help and other associations, and the way national and international actions would help promote their potentials;

- Research and training on specific deficiencies of current criminal laws.

ECA

59. As the main economic and social development centre within the United Nations for Africa, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will support the goals and objectives of the New Agenda for the development of Africa in the 1990s. In close cooperation with the organizations, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, it will play a key role in strengthening the partnership between the international community and Africa in support of efforts, not only to contain the crisis that the continent has been experiencing since the early 1980s, but also to lay the foundation for self-sustained and sustainable long-term development.

60. The purpose of the ECA action in the 1990s is to assist member countries in their efforts to dynamise the productive and social sectors of their economies through an optimal use of human, physical and financial resources and an efficient management.

61. In reinforcing in practice its support to the efforts of African countries, the delivery of ECA will include the following:

- Global and sectoral research studies on factors influencing the African socio-economic situation. ECA will continue to publish the annual survey of economic and social conditions in Africa together with the statistical annex. The Commission will also pursue activities related to research studies in key economic sectors such as food and agriculture, industry, transport and communication, population, natural resources and environment with a view to provide the member countries with a sound basis for formulating policies, programmes and projects aiming at transformation, and diversifying their economies. Under programme 45 specifically designed for African critical economic situation recovery and development, ECA will carry out research studies on factors influencing the African economic and social situation;

- Technical assistance in building up both national and regional capabilities in economic management and cooperation;

- The ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (MRAG); and

- Experts Group training and workshops;

- Operational activities in the form of medium- and long-term development programmes and projects; the development of geographical information systems at national and regional levels; and the establishment, within ECA of an Integrated Developmental Information System, combining the capabilities developed within the Pan African Information Development System (PADIS) and within other various substantive institutions.

UNCTAD

62. UNCTAD is undertaking a series of country reviews to examine the experience of developing countries in trade policy reform and identify the measures necessary for greater integration into the world economy, including those required for the diversification of exports and the expansion of regional trade. It should be noted that, since many of the countries in Africa are LDCs, UNCTAD activities relating to national trade policies are also undertaken under that programme.

63. In the area of shipping, UNCTAD plans to undertake activities that should lead to the improvement of the efficiency of the transport sector in Africa, such as rail, road and internal waterways. In addition, UNCTAD is expected to be involved in executing Decade projects of about $4 million per annum over the next 10 years in relation to the Second Transport and Communications Decade for Africa. Furthermore, the Advance Cargo Information System (ACIS) will be incorporated into the regular work programme in accordance with the Tehran Declaration of the G77 Ministers which requested UNCTAD to further implement in Africa as a means of mastering the logistic of the transport chain, to develop the transport sector and to reduce total transport costs. With respect to the programme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) the UNCTAD secretariat will provide advisory services to African LDCs including advice on arrangements for the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs, including country review preparations as well as on assessing technical cooperation requirements, projects and programmes and formulation. The proposed regional programme for the implementation of policy reforms in the LDCs include the following activities:

- Promote long-term socio-economic transformation through support to national strategic planning and the management capacities of African Governments to undertake macroeconomic planning; natural resources and environmental management;

- Development of the capacity of the African LDCs to implement sound financial management policies and systems;

- Support to efforts aimed at strengthening integrated systems of financial resources planning which will enable governments to redefine sustainable expenditure priorities which focus or poverty alleviation;

- Assistance to develop appropriate trade and investment policies as a package in the context of economic reform covering such issues as diversification of the production structure, export development, etc;

- Assist LDC Governments to formulate an integrated approach in the area of participatory development and support its implementation.

64. For island and land-locked countries, particular focus is placed on critical issues such as the strengthening of arrangements for the movement of transit traffic and for inter-island communications, and the mobilization of financial and technical assistance to them for the improvement of transit traffic and transport infrastructures. Current and planned activities include:

- The promotion of legal instruments with respect to bilateral and subregional transit agreements in the areas of railway, rail and port operations and inter-island shipping, air and telecommunications services agreements;

- Technical assistance consisting of:

  (i) Advisory services in the fields of simplification and standardization of customs and trade documentation; comparative analysis of transport costs along alternative transit corridors; feasibility studies on the establishment of new transit transport infrastructures; assistance in the implementation of transit traffic policies; and assistance in the restructuring of production and trade patterns to suit the particular geographic situation of land-locked and island developing countries; and

  (ii) Group training including training of personnel involved in the implementation of transit traffic policies and operations.

- Operational activities

  The main focus of project activities will be on improving the transit documentation, the further development and operation of dry ports, regular analysis of data on various transit routes, institution building, and support to the governments in the development of small-scale transit industry assisting governments and the implementation of bilateral and subregional transit agreements.

65. With respect to the diversification of African economies, in the area of commodities, UNCTAD will prepare a report assessing the operation of existing compensatory financing schemes in relation to export earnings shortfalls of African countries and suggesting possible means of improving their scope and operation. With respect to diversification, UNCTAD will also participate in the study referred to in the United Nations NADAF on a diversification fund for Africa's commodities in close collaboration with relevant United Nations and other organizations.

66. Provided extrabudgetary resources are available, UNCTAD will also undertake the following required technical co-operation activities:

- Assistance in the development of viable diversification programmes;

- Assistance, through advice, exchange of experience and workshops, in formulation, review and implementation of commodity export policies;

- Assistance as may be required, within UNCTAD's areas of competence, on formulation and implementation of sectoral reforms within the context of structural adjustment programmes;

- Assistance, through financing, in formulation and implementation of policies;

- Assistance in the development of information networks to assist in investment and trade decisions in the commodities sector.

67. Finally, UNCTAD will undertake the following activities which constitute a response to the changing international trading environment that is under way, namely the Uruguay Round, the emergence of trading blocks and transition in Eastern and Central Europe:

- An economic diversification component and intra-African trade;

- A preferential schemes management component to identify products that would have impact on export performance and diversification and to intensify use of existing preferential schemes particularly where preferential margins are enjoyed;

- A service development component to build service infrastructural capacity geared to supporting trade;

- A training and human resources development component to enhance negotiating capacities in multilateral trade negotiations;

- An integration of post-apartheid South Africa component will provide assistance to develop appropriate trade and investment policies in that context.

UNICEF

68. UNICEF will continue to examine the impact of the economic policies on children and the poor. During 1991, a series of special case studies on the impact of economic adjustment policies on a series of African countries was carried out by UNICEF.

69. UNICEF will continue to advocate for a strong social dimension to be included in all economic planning and adjustment measures, as well as in long-term development. Efforts will continue to influence the policy dialogue

on redesigning fiscal, price and investment policies to give these policies a stronger orientation in favour of the poor, through participation in key forums involving international financial agencies, through limited support for research in this field and through workshops with carefully selected participants aimed at stimulating national debates on these issues.

70. Particular efforts will be made to collaborate with other United Nations organs, agencies and bodies represented in the Joint Consultative Group on Policies and with the international financial institutions in monitoring the impact of the economic environment and economic policies on the implementation of the social sector programmes at the country level. UNICEF will continue to collaborate with UNDP and UNOV in the Human Development Initiative, which provides senior-level support to selected requesting countries to adjust budgetary policies and planning in ways that give greater scope for human development.

UNDP

71. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will assist in implementing the National Long-Term Perspective Studies and Programmes (NLTPS) and the African Capacity Building Initiative (ACBI). These two programmes are at the core of restructuring and strengthening of African economies.

72. Three major areas have been identified as requiring adjustment to better respond to emerging needs. These are:

- improving national planning frameworks to become more responsive to market-oriented economies;

- strengthening regional, subregional and national policy and planning capability through the NLTPS and ACBI initiatives; and

- strengthening strategy based technical cooperation through an integrated programme approach and enhanced aid coordination mechanism. (Revitalized Round Table Process).

73. UNDP activities will include operationalizing national long-term perspective studies (initiate NLTPS in 5 countries (1992), 11 countries (1993) 15 countries (1994). In this regard, preparatory seminars were organized (i) to promote revitalization of development planning including one Regional Seminar for Planning Ministers on Planning in an Open Market Economy, Windhoek, Namibia (Nov. 1991; and five subregional seminars, two in 1990, one in 1991, and two in 1992); and (ii) to promote an enabling environment for private sector development.

UNIFEM

74. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) will continue to support African economic development throough specific support to improve the role of women in development and to advocate for national and regional

policies and programmes which enable women's enhanced participation and increase their capacity and visibility as agents of economic and social change. UNIFEM will continue to focus its programme support in three key performance areas namely agriculture and food security; trade and industry; macropolicy, regional and national planning.

75. UNIFEM's overall strategy for support to African development is based on: increasing community-based programming, enabling project and programme ownership and management by the local community and women in particular, increasing women's capacity, technical skills and training to enable them to participate more fully in community and national development, and on supporting activities that increase women's access to mainstream resources and policy-making levels.

World Bank

76. The World Bank has accorded an increasingly higher institutional priority to Sub-Saharan Africa. The Africa region is now the Bank's single largest Department with around 1,250 professional and support staff members. The Bank has increased its number of in-country Resident Missions to over 30. The Bank's lending to Sub-Saharan Africa has also risen, from an annual average of $1.8 billion over the period 1981-1985 to around $3 billion over 1986-1991. About two thirds of this assistance is concessional. Recognising the gravity of Africa's problems, donors to IDA Replenishments VIII and XI designated that 45-50 per cent of those resources should be allocated to Sub-Saharan Africa. Sustainable growth and development in Sub-Saharan Africa is therefore the Bank's "number one priority".

77. It is envisaged that IBRD/IDA lending commitments to the region in the next few years may average on the order of $4 billion annually, with disbursements probably averaging around $3 billion annually, in current prices. The level of IDA commitments beyond the Bank's fiscal year 1993 will depend upon the overall size and geographical distributions of IDA Replenishment X, while the level of IBRD/IDA financing may vary significantly from year to year depending on country-specific creditworthiness and other considerations. The composition of future lending, by sector and as between project and non-project assistance, will reflect the strategy and priorities as broadly described in the Bank report entitled "Sub-Saharan Africa: From Crisis to Sustainable Growth (The World Bank, 1989); this report is frequently referred to as the "Long-Term Perspective Study" (LTPS).

78. Using the LTPS as a framework, individual countries, with the support of the Bank and other donors, have begun to undertake their own national LTPS studies as a basis for future action. The strategy aims to maintain the momentum behind and to intensify the process of economic policy reform, to increase investment and build human and institutional capacities, to boost agricultural productivity, reduce population growth rates, and protect the environment, and to catalyze and support the private sector activity in Africa, both domestic and foreign. It also strives to nurture grass-roots efforts and bring women fully into the development process, for African

countries to cooperate and integrate economically - to enlarge markets, achieve cost savings and improve efficiency, to improve governance in Africa and to put in place administrative systems that provide an enabling environment for development, and for increased quantities of aid and debt relief from the donor community with the need to improve the quality and efficiency of those resources.

79. In this context, reference needs to be made to the Special Programme of Assistance (SPA), implemented in 1987 by a consortium of bilateral donors and multilateral organizations and spearheaded by the World Bank, to help those African countries that were low-income, debt distressed and undertaking economic reform programmes. The principal purposes of the SPA is to ensure that the economic reform programmes of the poorest African nations are adequately financed, and to provide a framework for the coordination of donor efforts. Within this framework, during the first phase of the SPA (1988-90), it is estimated that about $18 billion in combined concessional aid flows and debt relief measures was committed to about 23 countries eligible under the SPA. For the second phase of the SPA (1991-93), donors have already pledged about $8 billion in cofinancing which, together with projected commitments from the World Bank (IDA), the IMF and various debt relief measures, should amount to a total package of around $20 billion.

80. The Bank's lending, operating economic and sector works are aimed at assisting Governments to implement programmes consistent with the strategic agenda as outlined above. Emphasis will be accorded mainly to human resource development and capacity-building. The priorities for future Bank assistance are to deepen adjustment policy reforms coupled with efforts to improve human capital and infrastructure. Three themes are being given priority-Private sector development (PSD); industrial competitiveness and restructuring; and entrepreneurial development. A key related objective is the need to channel increased external capital resources into private investment.

81. During the 1990s it is envisaged that the share of investment project lending would rise. It is also envisaged that additional countries that did not pursue adjustment programmes in the 1980s will do so in the 1990s, enabling the Bank to move from current smaller "core" investment programmes to larger programmes of both policy-related and investment projects in such countries. The bulk of the Bank's adjustment lending is now focused on sectoral adjustment programmes rather than structural adjustment programmes. In this way, recovery and growth in individual sectors complement overall macroeconomic policy support. This relative emphasis on sectoral adjustment operations may be expected to continue in the 1990s.

82. The Social Dimensions of Adjustment (SDA) project is another initiative that is helping African Governments to ensure that the impact of adjustment on the poor is taken into account and addressed in every programme of economic policy reform. Thirty Sub-Saharan countries are currently participating in the SDA, as well as numerous bilateral donors - IFAD, UNFPA, the European Community and many others. Here again, the emphasis is on the partnership approach.

IMF

83. The Fund has for many years been assisting the African countries in the analysis of macroeconomic developments and the design of policies conducive to the achievement of internal and external financial balance and sustained economic growth. The Fund has also been providing financial assistance and policy advice for the adjustment programmes of the African countries, as well as technical assistance in support of their efforts to strengthen institutional and managerial capabilities. A total of SDR 8.7 billion may be made available to the eligible countries on highly concessional terms under the SAF and ESAF, in addition to financial assistance under the other facilities of the Fund.

84. The Fund's total direct financial assistance committed to Africa under all of its facilities has increased sharply since UNPAAERD began in 1986, and an increasingly larger proportion has been on concessional terms. The amount of assistance is expected to increase further, as more countries embark on appropriate and sustained adjustment. It is also expected that the access of African countries to Fund resources will remain diversified, to include access under stand-by arrangements, the extended Fund facility (EFF), and the SAF/ESAF.

85. In its efforts to further assist African countries adopting comprehensive adjustment programmes, the Fund has committed and hopes to commit increased resources under stand-by and extended arrangements as well.

86. The Fund will also provide increased resources under its compensatory financing facility (CFF) assisting members' balance of payments difficulties stemming from circumstances deemed to be outside their control. The compensatory and contingency financing facility (CCFF), replaced the CFF in August 1988.

87. The Fund will also continue its efforts to assist countries with overdue financial obligations to the Fund to adopt strong adjustment programmes and to clear arrears in the framework of the collaborative strategy. In this regard, some African countries have already adopted Rights Accumulative Programmes.

88. In June 1990, the Fund's Board of Governors approved the Ninth General Review of Quotas, which provides for 50 per cent increase in quotas, from about SDR 90.1 billion to SDR 135.2 billion. The quota increase, when effective, will ensure that the Fund has sufficient resources to fulfil its global responsibilities and to meet the needs of individual members, including providing financial assistance in support of members' strong programmes of growth-oriented adjustment.

89. In addition to the financial support, the Fund intends to continue to provide technical assistance in the period ahead through its resident representatives, resident experts to several countries and a number of regional organizations, largely in the areas of public finance, banking and debt management. At headquarters, the IMF will continue to provide training

in quantitative financial analysis, the design of financial programmes, and the formulation of fiscal, monetary, and balance of payments policies.

UNFPA

90. UNFPA will continue the implementation of its 1987 Strategy for UNFPA Assistance in Sub-Saharan Africa, the objectives of which are to improve the knowledge and understanding of population issues and encourage Governments to develop population policies and plans and initiate effective programmes; and to strengthen the capacity of countries to undertake and manage population programmes and policies and to integrate them into overall economic and social development programmes.

91. In order to create the tools and knowledge base for effective capacity-building in the field of policy formulation and planning, UNFPA has recently initiated a new modality to assist Governments in reviewing their current population programmes and in formulating comprehensive national population and development strategies: the Programme Review and Strategy Development (PRSD). Under this process, priority areas for national action in population and development are identified and more appropriate programmes developed to address the major population issues within a sustainable development context.

92. With the aim of strengthening the national demographic databases necessary for socio-economic development planning, UNFPA will continue to support the conduct of decennial national censuses, demographic surveys, the initiation and improvement of civil registration systems, and will initiate an African Survey Programme. Additionally, UNFPA will provide project support for the integration of population into the Social Dimensions of Structural Adjustment Programme of the World Bank.

93. In order to promote integrated population and development planning, UNFPA will pursue its support to the establishment of population commissions and units in each African country. The future emphasis in the work of these entitites will be on formulating tnd implementing comprehensive population policy plans of action in close coordination with other economic and social development plans and programmes.

UNCHS

94. The technical assistance programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements focuses on two priority areas, namely the improvements of urban management and the formulation and implementation of national housing policies. The first priority area includes activities such as the mobilization of financial resources at the municipal level, strengthening local government management structures, provision and maintenance of basic infrastructure and services (such as water supply, sanitation and waste management and transportation). The second takes particularly into account the needs of the urban poor, based on the enabling approach which is at the core of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000.

95. UNCHS (Habitat) will further develop and extend its technical cooperation activities in Africa in three areas namely: National Shelter Strategy formulation and implementation; Urban Management and Municipal Development; and Urban employment generation in the context of basic infrastructure provision.

96. In the area of shelter strategies, it is envisaged that about 20 countries will be assisted with funds derived from UNDP and bilateral donors on cost sharing basis or as Funds in Trust. Two regional programmes on Shelter Strategies (one for Francophone Africa, the other for Anglophone Africa) have also been prepared and submitted to UNDP for funding.

97. In the area of Urban Management, it is envisaged that up to 20 countries will be covered in the 1990s. In 1992 regional networks of experts will be established within the framework of the joint UNDP/World Bank/UNCHS Urban Management Programme as a resource which African countries can draw upon for country consultations and related action programmes in the areas of poverty alleviation; land management; infrastructure management; urban environmental management; and municipal finance and administration.

98. In terms of Employment Generation, innovative projects with "employment generation and improvement of living conditions for the urban poor" as the main thrust will be implemented jointly by UNCHS, ILO and UNV. The projects will involve up to 10 countries.

99. Already, UNCHS (Habitat) as part of its technical assistance programme, has organized in cooperation with host Governments five subregional seminars for African countries on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000.

100. Based on the above cited priority areas, the major field of action will be to increase the capacity of national institutions to identify and respond to local problems particularly in the areas of settlement development and urban management. Improvements in municipal finance, land management, the maintenance of infrastructure and services, and the extension of their coverage to poor urban neighbourhoods remain the major targets of assistance.

101. UNCHS (Habitat) will also focus its activities on capacity-building at the municipal level. National projects will be supported by international assistance programmes such as the Urban Management Programme and its regional affiliate the "Municipal Development Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa" involving the World Bank, UNDP, and several bilateral donors.

WFP

102. At the request of Governments, WFP food aid can be used to ease the period of economic transition and help to protect the poor and vulnerable while national economies are restructured. Currently, WFP commitments worth $158 million are helping economic restructuring efforts in nine African countries. It is expected that future commitments to this sector will be of the order of $40 million annually.

103. In some situations, WFP food aid is used more directly to support economic restructuring programmes. In market restructuring or national price stabilization projects, WFP food aid is made available to governments for distribution, usually sale, when food prices are high. The proceeds normally are used to purchase local products at guaranteed prices after harvest, in order to replenish the reserve. Such projects help prevent excessive price fluctuations of stable foods which, if unchecked, could discourage local production (through producer prices falling too low immediately after harvest) or cause excessive hardship to consumers (because retail prices rise to high levels immediately prior to harvest).

104. WFP has assisted Governments in their efforts to reorganize their export industries so that they become more economic. It has also assisted Governments to become less dependent on imports. WFP's purchase of food for food aid also makes a significant contribution to the economies of developing countries. In 1991 WFP bought $60 million worth of food in sub-Saharan Africa. For poor countries with surpluses of certain food commodities, these purchases provide much needed foreign exchange. Purchasing food in developing countries may also help promote inter-country trade over the longer term.

FAO

105. New orientations to FAO's future work to address the special needs of African countries in the restructuring of their economies will include the following:

- Sector and sub-sector planning and analysis: analysis of the role of the private sector in agricultural development and examination of the links between the agricultural sector and other sectors;

- Project planning and analysis.

106. FAO will pursue the following objectives:

- Enhancement of the capabilities of Governments to formulate and implement rational and effective development and management plans in close cooperation with the people concerned;

- Conservation, sustainable and rational utilization of forest and tree resources;

- Improvement of national systems and methodologies for data collection and analysis;

- Enhancement of Governments' capabilities to introduce effective fisheries management regimes;

- Development of inland fisheries and rural aquaculture;

- Reduction of post-harvest losses;

- Improvement of the socio-economic conditions of artisanal fishermen and their involvement in management schemes; and

- Enhancement of the role of women in the sector.

107. FAO is providing assistance to member nations in the region in conserving and better exploiting their forest resources by giving emphasis to local initiatives. The most important of FAO's contributions to forestry development in Africa, is the Tropical Forestry Action Programme (TFAP) launched six years ago in cooperation with other major institutions and donors. Thirty-five countries have undertaken forestry sector reviews as the initial step in the process of launching and implementing new strategies and action programmes for their sustainable forestry development. FAO's assistance is and will continue to be geared towards action development and mobilizing intensified international support to speed up action to revert current trends in deforestation and forest degradation.

108. Forestry projects, as well as forestry elements in broader-based rural development programmes will still cover diverse activities from sand-dune control, watershed management and upland conservation to planning and institutional development in arid/semi-arid environments. Two additional major areas of work of special relevance to the region are forest inventories and management, and community forestry including the broad spectrum of participatory opportunities of men and women in forestry and forest products-related activities.

ILO

109. Activities currently undertaken by the ILO to support the efforts of African countries to achieve economic recovery and sustainable development against the background of structural adjustment include policy advice on the employment implications of macroeconomic policies and compensatory measures to mitigate the social costs of adjustment and economic restructuring; direct employment creation to cushion the negative effect of public sector retrenchment during adjustments and transition; training and retraining programmes for facilitating shifts in labour absorption and utilization between sectors as part of economic restructuring; co-operation with the international community towards creating a more favourable external socio-economic environment to support the implementation of desirable adjustment policies and programmes at the national level.

110. As a consequence of economic restructuring, the ILO has also more recently been involved in addressing problems of public sector retrenchment through co-operation with African Governments in areas such as manpower planning, training and social security. In addition, short-term advisory services have been provided to some African countries.

111. Among activities to be undertaken in 1992-93 to strengthen the ILO's capacity to assist its African member States in restructuring their economies is an interdepartmental project on employment and structural adjustment. This

project will focus on four main areas, namely the role of the public sector in adjustment; the adjustment of the public sector; compensatory measures to mitigate the social costs of transition, and the role of employers' organisations and trade unions in the process of change.

112. Under each of these headings research activities will be combined with technical advisory missions and technical co-operation in order to develop appropriate policy packages which will facilitate the process of adjustment while at the same time reducing its social costs and promoting the mobility of workers to more productive employment. The aim will be to produce an ILO policy paper on these questions to be considered by a High-Level Meeting on Employment and Structural Adjustment to be held in 1994. Also while activities under this project will cover all regions, it is expected that a major proportion of them will be concentrated on Africa in view of the particularly acute problems faced by many African countries in these areas.

113. Increasing attention is being paid to training for gainful employment in the rural and urban informal sectors. An ILO project on "Skills Development for Self-Reliance" (SDSR) is now being applied in several African countries.

114. The ILO has assisted member States in the African region to design and implement employment promotion and income generation projects. This programme is particularly relevant in the context of economic restructuring as it emphasizes the development and effective use of local resources (human, financial and technical) and private sector capacities. About 20 projects were in various stages of operation in the African region during 1990-91. Funding for these projects comes from UNDP and multi sources, and the programme has also been instrumental in attracting additional donor funding from the World Bank and regional development banks. The programme will be intensified in the 1990s - funds permitting - in response to the needs of more employment-oriented strategies being adopted by African Governments to mitigate the social costs of structural adjustment. The objective is to increase awareness among countries in the region of benefits of integrating labour and local-resource based approaches and techniques with their infrastructural development efforts and investment policies as part of the process of adjustment and restructuring.

115. Concern for social protection in African countries has heightened with the crisis and structural adjustment. The absence of a viable system in most African countries underlines activities by the ILO intended to assist Governments and their social partners in the region to develop long-term strategies and programmes for providing social protection. At the operational level, the ILO will continue to cooperate with Governments in the development and strengthening of social security systems and institutions concerned with social protection. Assistance will be provided to several countries.

116. The ILO Bureau of Statistics currently carries out two major continuing activities designed to improve the statistical capability of African member States as well as improve their technical capacity to collect, analyse and process socio-economic data and information. These are:

- Regional advisory service which aims at assisting countries in the African region in the development of basic national programmes in labour statistics needed by their Governments and others for various purposes such as employment and manpower planning and human resources development; monitoring the labour market and promoting productive and remunerative economic activities and effective utilization of qualitative labour.

- African Household Survey Capability Programme (AHSCP), which is sponsored by the United Nations Statistical Office in collaboration with ECA and the specialized agencies, and is aimed at helping developing countries obtain, through an integrated programme of household surveys, demographic social and socio-economic statistics required for development planning, policy formulation and programme implementation.

117. In ongoing and projected special programmes the ILO targets disadvantaged groups in the labour force including women, migrant workers, refugees, displaced persons, and the disabled, with the objective of integrating them fully into the development process as productive workers.

118. ILO, along with several other United Nations agencies and bilateral organizations will collaborate with ECA in providing coordinated technical and financial assistance to countries in the region.

WHO

119. WHO will focus on the fuller integration of health into the economic recovery programmes of African countries. In this connection WHO will take the necessary steps to mobilize the African countries and the international community to implement the Accra Agenda for action which focuses on the linkage between health and economic development.

120. WHO will host another international conference on macroeconomics and health which is also expected to provide more guidelines for integrating health into economic recovery programmes, especially in Africa. WHO will undertake a study of the link between macroeconomics and health and will seek to strengthen the management skills of health officials. A partnership with multi- and bilateral development agencies will be promoted and developed so that additional external resources can be mobilized to support coherent national health and development plans.

IMO

121. The basis of IMO's technical co-operation with African countries is the transfer of modern maritime technology. IMO has thus accorded the highest priority to the training of skilled African manpower to staff positions now filled by expatriates in national maritime administrations, port operations and on board ships.

122. At the national level, IMO's technical co-operation programme aims at promoting and assisted in the establishment or improvement of a number of nautical schools and marine academies.

123. The World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden, established in July 1983, provides specialized advanced level of training for maritime administrators, surveyors and inspectors, maritime lecturers and technical managers of shipping companies holding key positions in the administrations of developing countries. Training in specific maritime disciplines also takes place through IMO-administered fellowships which are allocated to candidates from African countries for training and study.

124. IMO will continue to act as the executing agency for numerous national projects dealing with maritime safety, maritime administration, maritime legislation and technical port operations, undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and in cooperation with the ECA and the OAU. IMO will provide continuous advice and support for maritime transport development in Africa through the services of Inter-regional Advisers in Maritime Training, Technical Port Operations, Maritime Safety Administration, Maritime Legislation, and Maritime Pollution.

125. IMO is at present implementing or providing assistance to projects in 28 countries in Africa, including 6 regional projects.

ICAO

126. The regular work programme of ICAO in the air transport field includes elements which are designed to promote the formulation and pursuit of air transport policies, regulations and practices in developing States which will enhance economic viability and healthy growth of their air transport industries. These elements include: publication of manuals on such matters as regulation of international air transport, establishment of air fares and rates, forecasting and economic planning, collection and use of aviation statistics, management of airports and route facilities; publication of aviation statistics and forecasts; air transport workshops covering the aforementioned subject matters; studies on air transport trends and developments in the region, obstacles to further development and measures to overcome these obstacles (ICAO intends to initiate work on an updated study for the African region during 1992); and provision of specialized air transport expertise to the African Civil Aviation Commission.

127. The three ICAO Regional Offices on the African continent, in Dakar, Nairobi and Cairo will continue to assist the States to which they are accredited in implementation of the relevant Air Navigation Plan. The purpose of the resulting Regional Air Navigation Plans is to establish an integrated, efficient system for the entire region.

UNIDO

128. In the field of restructuring and diversification of African economies, UNIDO's activities fall into three main areas namely: the strategic

management approach to the restructuring and development of the industrial sector; private sector development; and industrial rehabilitation.

129. With its strategic management approach, UNIDO aims at creating the human and technological capacity needed to overcome the constraints that usually handicap industrial activities. In this new approach interaction between the private sector and the State will be placed at the very centre of the industrial development process. It also offers scope for complementarity of action with the World Bank and similar financial institutions.

130. Currently the approach was introduced in some African countries and for the next biennium 1994-95, activities will be expanded in order to cover an increasing number of African countries.

131. UNIDO's privatization programme which became operational in 1990 was established to assist Governments in planning comprehensive and conducting long-term strategies which may eventually lead to the divestiture of the government-owned assets (either full or partial) in industrial enterprises.

132. The technical co-operation programme being formulated by UNIDO focuses on harmonizing national policies for the promotion of the private sector; promoting inter-country programmes to improve industrial services facilities; strengthening the industrial financial services subsector; strengthening regional and subregional associations of entrepreneurs and manufacturers, chambers of commerce and industry to provide more effective assistance to their members; and establishing a regional industrial development facility in UNIDO in support of the private sector for industrial project development.

133. UNIDO's main activities in the field of privatization envisaged for 1992-93, include inter alia: follow-up to ongoing activities in Africa. For the following biennium 1994-95, UNIDO will likely assist many other African countries in the elaboration of industrial privatization strategies, in the setting up of privatization monitoring and assessment bodies, and organizing privatization techniques workshops for middle and high-management personnel allowing the transfer of know-how and established procedures for privatization among African countries.

134. The overall aim of the industrial rehabilitation activities of UNIDO is to strengthen the capabilities of national industrial policy and development finance authorities and enabling countries to adopt long-term measures conducive to creating a resilient base for industrialization. In the context of rehabilitation and regeneration of African manufacturing industries, UNIDO is planning to carry out rehabilitation work in four African countries. Assistance to the rehabilitation of industrial systems in another four countries may be foreseen for the following biennium.

IAEA

135. Development efforts can be strengthened through the transfer of nuclear technology for modern development. Within the nuclear technology field,

isotopes and radiation techniques have considerable potential to foster economic growth and improvements in daily life. They are being used to study environmental pollution, determine groundwater resources, analyse hormones, track animal and plant diseases and examine materials used in construction.

136. IAEA assistance to African countries has been concerned with the transfer of nuclear technology and techniques mainly in the areas of food and agriculture, medicine, water resources development, and industrial applications and development of nuclear raw materials. IAEA will focus on more planning work as one of the priority areas of its programme in Africa.

137. The technical assistance programme covers the following areas; hydrology studies in the Sahelian region; the control or eradication of a species of tsetse fly using the sterile insect technique in 2 countries; a regional livestock project to do work in hormone assay disease diagnosis and nutrition in 14 countries.

138. IAEA also offers technical assistance in the area of radiation protection which African Governments consider a priority. The programme assists African countries in the drafting of proper regulations and codes, creating systems to supervise and ensure their efficient application, the provision of radiation monitoring equipment, calibration and dosimeter processing, and environmental sampling services. To date, 13 African countries have been receiving IAEA assistance under national projects in radiation protection.

139. African members of IAEA are also benefiting from an interregional project which provides missions by the IAEA's Radiation Protection Advisory Teams (RAPATs), which advise on the total requirements of a sound radiation protection programmes. To date, 15 African countries have received RAPAT missions.

140. There is also a new regional agreement (the Africa Regional Co-operative Agreement [AFRA]), which broadens the scope of technical cooperation to respond to the increase in nuclear applications for development in Africa. This is intended to focus on common problems such as difficult climatic conditions, paner supply problems and the lack of proper maintenance facilities for nuclear equipment.

(ii) Achieving food self-sufficiency and food security

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

141. Agriculture is a major if not the main driving force for African development. It accounts for 35 per cent of Africa's gross domestic product, 66 per cent of its labour force and 40 per cent of its export earnings.

142. In spite of increased national efforts, significant increase in agricultural production has not been achieved. Food production has failed to

keep pace with population growth, or at best per capita production has increased marginally.

143. As a consequence of the drought in southern Africa, average crop yields are anticipated to be less than 50 per cent of normal during 1992-1993 in the area, endangering the social fabric and economic structures of several countries. In order to cover the cereal requirements in the affected countries in that year, cereal imports from overseas for 6.1 million metric tonnes will be required, in addition to 5.5 million metric tonnes of cereal imports required by South Africa. A joint UN-SADCC appeal was launched in May 1992 seeking 2.5 million metric tonnes of programmed food aid as well as approximately 1.6 million metric tonnes of targeted food assistance. But the drought-induced emergency cannot be resolved by food assistance alone. It will demand considerable resources to provide potable water, medicines and other disease control measures. In addition, means for recovery such as seeds, tools and livestock protection would need to be made available urgently.

144. Most countries in Africa which continue to face the combined problems of low nutritional status, continuing high population growth rates, inadequate growth in food production and incomes, and inability to meet food deficits through commercial imports, call for concerted measures and nutrition interventions to ensure minimum nutritional standards.

145. Africa has the potential to produce a great deal more food, and produce it on a sustainable basis. However reserves of good arable land in most countries is limited. Thus, increased agricultural production will have to come from the intensification of agriculture through improved farm management practices and the wider use of improved seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, veterinary medicines and mechanization.

146. Africa has less than 10 million hectares of irrigated land, and most irrigation systems are inefficient and costly - particularly too expensive for the staple food crops. The irrigated area could easily be doubled in the longer term but this will still require major efforts to improve the management of irrigation systems and reduce their cost.

147. The periodic upsurges of pests such as locusts, grain-eating birds, grasshoppers and armyworm present a constant threat to African agriculture. Similarly, post-harvest crop losses during drying, threshing, storage, transportation and primary processing are still significant. There is a need for reducing such losses to food supplies and improve the nutritional value of foodstuffs, without increasing the cropped area.

148. The region will be unable to arrest the critical food shortage, minimize food losses, and attain food self-sufficiency, without developing viable agro-based industries. In this regard, the sector will need fertilizers, pesticides, storage facilities, agricultural machinery and equipment, and the capacities to preserve and process food.

149. The weakening economic base of smallholder agriculture in Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, has pointed towards a need for policy reforms that take into account the structural decline in both international commodity prices and national food output. This trend calls for a decentralisation of decision-making, grass-root institution building, an increase in demand-based services, such as smallholder driven research and extension, and stronger linkages between agriculture and rural financial markets and industry in such areas as food processing and the development of low-cost, labour-intensive rural manufacture. Consequently, priority should be accorded to poverty alleviation and the enhancement of the productivity of smallholders, particularly through focusing on increasing food production and other on-farm and off-farm income generating activities.

150. One of the most important objectives in facing this issue is helping African countries develop national policies and capabilities in research and technology development, transfer and application. In strengthening national capabilities, particular attention will need to be given to policies and planning of agricultural research, to the organisation and management of research programmes, and to the evaluation of traditional or emerging technologies for sustainable agricultural development.

151. Livestock is very important to the agricultural economy in most of Africa. Therefore its development is affected by severe constraints such as recurrent droughts and endemic diseases. Vaccination campaigns against rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia must be pursued in order to limit losses. African Animal Trypanosomiasis, other parasitic and tick-borne diseases, and African Swine Fever continue to hamper animal production. Added to this are the poor animal husbandry practices and inadequate feeding systems. These issues will all need to be addressed during the period of implementation of the plan of action.

152. The food gap in Africa is being filled by an increasing volume of food aid which has not been always used to promote food security improvement-related activities. This valuable resource must be incorporated in programmes aiming at economic recovery and development.

(b) Current and planned activities

FAO

153. Ongoing assistance in the food security area in Africa under the Food Security Assistance Scheme (FSAS) includes some 11 projects of which 5 relate to the development and implementation of both national and subregional early warning systems. The expanded FSAS aims at assisting African countries to articulate medium-term food security policies and related action programmes to ensure their coordinated and effective implementation.

154. FAO's assistance to member countries will seek to determine alternative land-use policy options based, inter alia, on the systematic assembly and analysis of information on land and water resources and crop requirements, and their incorporation into databases and geographic information systems.

155. Assistance will be given to formulate sound national policies and strategies for fertilizer use, plant nutrition and for the maintenance of soil productivity. Two long-standing Special Action Programmes - the Fertilizer Programme (FP) and the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme (IFS) - are of direct relevance to Africa. Combining these into an International Programme for Sustainable Development of Soil Productivity would provide the framework for national strategies to conserve and regenerate soil fertility and productivity.

156. Continued assistance in the expansion of crop production will aim at raising yields per unit of land area rather than any great extension of cultivated area. FAO's assistance will also cover the conservation, evaluation, improvement and full utilization of plant biological diversity and improved agronomic practices.

157. Much of the work already done and currently underway underlines the importance of forestry for the food security of rural populations in Africa. Further work will be done and assistance provided to incorporate into forest management and utilization the significant contribution of wild foods and medicines to rural health and nutrition. Support will be provided to forest-based small-scale enterprises which utilize the widest array of forest and tree products and are one of the most significant sources of off-farm employment and income.

158. During the 1990s, FAO will continue to assist its member countries in Africa, more specifically with the development of food legumes (including support to the Soybean Research Network for Sub-Saharan Africa), and direct support to national research and extension institutions,including: varietal trials and on-farm demonstration of food legumes; studies on cotton/legume systems where cowpeas and dwarf pigeon peas are being intercropped with cotton; improvement of rice and rice-based farming systems; on-farm demonstrations of low-risk technologies for rice covering the introduction of varieties with multiple disease and pest resistance, use of non-toxic locally produced botanical pesticides; improving land preparation, improved nursery and irrigation management for timely and efficient weed control; promoting inland swamp rice development and hydromorphic rice; improvement and transfer of cereal production technologies through on-farm demonstrations for maize, sorghum and millet, development and intensification of vegetable production, focusing on small-scale production units and green belt development for tropical vegetables in peri-urban areas.

159. Much of the work on crop protection, plant quarantine, and control operations against outbreaks of plant pests is of a continuing nature.

160. FAO's assistance to African countries in the future will also concentrate on the promotion of national capacities to conserve, enhance and utilize plant genetic diversity through collection, characterisation, documentation, exchange of germ plasm, breeding programmes and related research activities, and plant propagation.

161. Assistance will be provided for the development and adoption of modern plant biotechnologies for germ plasm conservation, plant improvement, plant propagation, crop production and food and agricultural industries.

162. Within the framework of the present Plan of Action, FAO will also assist African member countries in developing sustainable livestock production; improving pastures and extensive natural grazing lands; ensuring the productive utilization of crop residues for animal feed; the maintenance of soil fertility through mixed farming practices.

163. Currently, FAO places a special stress on strengthening institutional capacity within the livestock sector. Attention will be given to the maintenance of biological diversity, including the establishment of a global data bank. Support for the eradication and control of major diseases will be emphasized. Biotechnology applications will be promoted in vaccine development and disease diagnosis. In livestock feeding, emphasis will be placed on effective use of by-products and residues and the introduction of non-conventional plants and trees into both range and mixed farming.

164. For the future, the focus of FAO's assistance to African countries in the livestock sector will be on increased and better use of feed resources, particularly at the level of the smallholder, including on-farm produced feeds. Assistance will continue to be given to national and subregional bodies to conserve animal genetic resources, cataloguing and describing African breeds of livestock, on the conservation and improvement of valuable breeds and for the preservation of endangered species.

165. As far as animal health is concerned, FAO will continue to provide emergency assistance to African countries in combating actual occurrences of diseases and on longer-term disease containment programmes.

166. Africa will remain a high priority region in FAO's nutrition programmes. Assistance to African countries will seek to establish or refine databases at national level to assess with greater reliability the nutritional impact of agricultural policies, and in the planning and implementation of specific nutrition interventions. The introduction of food and nutritional considerations into the design and planning of agricultural and rural development projects will be pursued. In-service training courses will be organized for food specialists and nutrition planners. Food science will be promoted in educational and research programmes of national institutions and universities. Programmes and projects for the development of food standards and food quality control infrastructures are to be further developed.

167. Efforts are under way by FAO, WHO and UNICEF through meetings of the Technical Group on Nutrition and through the African Regional Task Force on Food and Nutrition and Development to initiate programmes and activities which will increase household food security, control infection and improve caring capacities of nutritionally at-risk groups.

168. In strengthening national capabilities, particular attention will need to be given to policies and planning of agricultural research; to the organization and management of research programmes.

169. FAO in collaboration with IAEA will also pursue the application of nuclear techniques and related biotechnologies which can help solve problems related, inter alia, to soil and water management, plant breeding, animal production and health, insect control, agro-chemical use, and food preservation. Similarly, agro-meteorological applications will be encouraged in forecasting, monitoring and planning of crop production and pest/disease control.

170. FAO will assist African countries in the provision of efficient agricultural services to farming communities, including appropriate institutional arrangements and the active involvement of farmers, both men and women. Beyond marketing and credit, action would cover the improvement of agricultural education services.

171. Looking towards the future, FAO will give priority to effective marketing policies, including private sector involvement and modified role of food marketing parastatals, and analysis of these policies' impact on farmers, consumers and on overall efficiency. Support will continue to be given to the Regional Food Marketing Associations: the Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for the Near East and North Africa (AFMANENA) and the Association of Food Marketing Agencies in Eastern and Southern Africa (AFMESA) in the context of market liberalization.

World Food Council

172. In view of the complementarity between the food strategies promoted by the Council and the structural adjustment programmes supported by IMF and the World Bank, WFC will work towards the integration of food strategies into structural adjustment programmes in order to attain the objectives of structural transformation and food security within the AAF/SAP promoted by ECA and endorsed by the African Ministers of Planning.

173. At present, the Council emphasises its efforts to advance the implementation of the Cairo Declaration adopted in 1989, which provided a set of hunger-alleviation goals recently incorporated into the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. WFC also works for a renewal of the Green Revolution, which would bring about major advances in the development, transfer and application of productivity enhancing agricultural technology in developing countries and in Africa, in particular, to meet the food needs of their growing populations in the 1990s and early twenty-first century.

174. At its last ministerial session - the 18th WFC session - the Council expressed its concern about the tragic long-term deterioration of Africa's food, hunger, socio-economic and environmental situation as well as the disasatrous effects of the worst drought in decades in southern Africa. An

appeal was made to donors and the international community to help reverse Africa's deteriorating food and hunger situation.

World Food Programme

175. WFP sees food aid as an effective tool in strengthening food security by creating stability of supply, increasing agricultural production and providing access to food to food-insecure groups. While economic growth, and agricultural growth in particular, is an essential pre-requisite to attaining food security, the growing problems of malnutrition, unemployment and under-employment, and poverty require measures to improve the livelihood of food-insecure groups and to ensure that they are active partners in the development process.

176. Currently WFP is assisting 39 projects with commitments worth US$ 489.6 million in Africa in fields of land development and improvement, land settlement, crop production and animal production. Most of these projects are executed under the form of "Food-for-Work". WFP food inputs are closely integrated with inputs of the countries concerned and those of other multilateral bilateral donor agencies in order to enhance the impact of the Programme's assistance. WFP is also assisting African countries to become less dependent on imports through activities that are designed to ensure that increased food production is sustainable in economic and environmental terms.

177. WFP, in collaboration with the World Bank, prepared a major review of Food Aid in Africa. The results of the study are being incorporated in the work of the Programme to ensure that food aid supports efforts of African countries aimed at improving and strengthening their capacities to achieve national food security.

178. Food channelled through vulnerable group development projects provides both a nutritional supplement and an income transfer, appreciably increasing the purchasing power of beneficiaries. WFP is presently assisting 56 ongoing projects in the African region to assist vulnerable groups, with a total commitment volume of $638 million. Future commitments to this sector are likely to average $160 million annually. WFP also provides food aid in support of food security reserves. Current WFP commitments to these projects total $16 million.

UNFPA

179. In order to assist Governments in planning for improved food security, UNFPA has collaborated with FAO in creating and strengthening, within Statistical Services and Ministries of Agriculture, the capacity for undertaking analytical work to take population factors into consideration during target setting for agricultural production in the process of formulating and implementing agricultural policies and plans. UNFPA and FAO have also cooperated in developing a global model on land-carrying capacity and will pursue efforts to undertake research on population and land-carrying capacity in selected African countries which will provide the respective

Governments with an information base for integrating population and agricultural development policy and planning.

180. UNFPA and FAO are also collaborating to provide regional advisory services to assist Governments in promoting awareness regarding and interrelationship of family size and food security among rural communitites and as a part of the curricula of agricultural extension training colleges.

IFAD

181. The International Fund for Agricultural Development was set up to mobilise additional concessional resources to help the poorest groups in developing member countries to raise their food production, reduce undernutrition and alleviate their poverty. Thus IFAD is seeking to help 93 developing countries to reduce poverty and hunger and accelerate their rate of development.

182. IFAD resources are and will be focused on the least developed and other low-income, food deficit countries of which there are many in Africa and within these countries on the poorest groups.

183. IFAD-supported projects will concentrate on helping to overcome the constraints that confront smallholder farmers by targeted programmes to increase their access to credit and inputs, extension and research services and other institutions serving the rural poor. Special attention is given to the needs of rural women, who in many countries produce the bulk of food crops and are the real architects of household food security.

184. As of December 1991 the project portfolio under the Regular Programme was 108 projects in over 40 countries, of which 33 were closed, 58 under implementation and 17 yet to become effective and fully operational. In the case of the Special Programme for Africa (SPA), there were 26 projects in 21 countries.

185. The Special Resources for Sub-Saharan Africa (SRS) have permitted the Fund to maintain and even increase the level of its assistance to sub-Saharan Africa. Currently, IFAD is implementing the fourth subprogramme of this regional training programme which is implemented in cooperation with OAU/STRC, the African Development Bank and the EDI of the World Bank. Within the framework of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy and Programme Coordination (JCGP) and the implementation of the first phase of the SPA, and at the invitation of the sponsors of the Social Dimensions of Adjustment (SDA), IFAD will develop an analysis plan for assessing the impact of structural adjustment on smallholders in sub-Saharan African countries. In the future IFAD will support a certain number of grants for agricultural research and related activities from its grant resources.

186. The Second Phase of the Special Programme (SPA-II) would consolidate the lessons and achievements of the First Phase and would extend the range of IFAD operations to cover the whole farming community and off-farm activities in

rural areas. With the need to increase management capacity persisting in Africa's agricultural sector, efforts are now being initiated to institutionalize AMTA training on a sustainable and continent-wide base in the future.

ECA

187. The programmes and activities of ECA in the priority area will focus on assisting member States in attaining self-sufficiency in food and establish self-sustaining production systems of African agriculture. Coherent policies aimed at developing complementarities at the subregional level will be promoted.

188. Specifically, the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division, in close collaboration with FAO technical departments and backstopped by the industry, transports and communications, and trade divisions within the ECA, will focus on research studies on and analysis of those factors influencing food availability, marketing, distribution and processing infrastructures. In support of the ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group, the joint Division will carry out technical assistance activities, giving emphasis to enhancing the capabilities of both national and regional institutions of designing and implementing programmes aiming at improving food security. ECA will continue to implement catalytic operational projects with a view to increasing the awareness of African decision makers of the challenge of emerging possibilities of boosting food production, including biotechnologies. Operational activities will also include projects to support regular activities and aiming at strengthening the region capabilities in the following areas: (a) control of animal and plant diseases; (b) agricultural research; (c) establishment of subregional seed production and animal breeding centres; (d) fertilizer and pesticides production; (e) creation of subregional food security, stocks; and (f) establishment of operational agricultural marketing extension services with special consideration for women extensionists.

World Bank

189. In the area of agriculture, the Bank's strategy for Africa aims at enhancing the role of the private sector in farming, agricultural marketing, processing and credit; promoting technological development at the farm and enterprise level, especially as it concerns the needs of women; and preserving the productivity of the land, water, forest, plant and animal life. Developing rural infrastructure, creating food security and promoting population policy and rural health and education are also key objectives of the Bank's agricultural lending programme.

190. One of the Bank's initiatives focuses on agricultural services. Based on the Training and Visit system of combining research, extension and management of agricultural services, this initiative has now been extended to 22 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The goal is to increase production and yields by conveying simple, low-cost, low-risk technical messages to farmers.

Many of the extension services are directed specifically at female farmers, who play the key role in African agriculture. The Bank is also working closely with other donors and African Governments in coordinating the financing for agricultural research through the Special Program of African Agricultural Research (SPAAR). The objective is to develop research strategies for individual African countries in a regional and ecological context, so that there will be less duplication, less overlapping, and more possibility for getting results from the resources available for agricultural research.

191. The Bank's food security initiative include plans already covered. Six others are under preparation. In addition, along with the World Food Programme, the Bank has prepared a major study on food aid in Africa. Major elements of the Bank's food security initiative include the preparation of action programmes to promote food security in each country in the region; according priority to projects and policies that raise the incomes of the food insecure and dampen fluctuations in food prices and supplies; strengthening the institutional capabilities of African Governments to manage related programmes; increasing the effectiveness of food aid which includes improving the preparation and coordination of responses of emergency food situations; and making more systematic efforts to identify the people at high risk of food insecurity.

ILO

192. Through the ILO's rural employment promotion activities and rural infrastructure schemes significant impact is made on improving food security and related goals through the enhanced provision of physical facilities (e.g., labour-intensive public works programmes for irrigation and feeder roads) and human resources (e.g. for rural cooperatives' management and skills).

UNDP

193. An important share of IPFs of UNDP in Africa is directed to the agricultural sector, through activities financed by UNDP and executed by FAO or WFP, as already described above, or projects directly executed by national Governments, with the technical support of United Nations bodies and agencies.

194. In the field of food self-sufficiency and food security, UNDP activities encompass the following: Africa project on food security in two countries; special emergency assistance to food deficit countries in five African countries; Africa Investment Plan: agriculture and food security; projects/programmes to strengthen farm extension services to reduce post harvest losses, extend rural farm credit; and support to Food Security Units within Planning Ministries.

UNIFEM

195. With regard to agriculture and food security UNIFEM has identified the need to increase women's access to modern scientific and technological innovations, credit and training to improve women's performance in the whole food cycle. In this connection over 75 per cent of UNIFEM funded projects in Africa focus on achieving food self-sufficiency and food security both at the household level as well as at the national and regional levels. UNIFEM supports projects in some 38 African countries and in addition supports regional initiatives for economic integration. For example in the SADCC region alone, UNIFEM is funding two programmes worth $8 million to improve policy response to women and to enhance women's work and activities at the community level. UNIFEM's support for agriculture and food-related activities to date has amounted to a total of nearly $21 million for project funds alone. For the biennium 1992-1993, UNIFEM anticipates expenditure for Africa will total $12,650,000. Funding levels for the biennium 1992-1993 are anticipated at approximately $13,000,000.

UNIDO

196. In view of the key role of food-processing industries in improving food security in Africa, UNIDO concentrated its efforts in this field developing policies and strategies aimed at improving techniques, efficiency and product quality in the informal traditional sector; promoting and developing, at both subregional and regional levels, mechanisms for cooperation in the development and exchange of food technologies, giving priority to small-scale food-processing industries; developing national composite flours programmes so as to reduce wheat imports, thus saving foreign currency and stimulating the production of local staples; carrying out rehabilitation diagnostic studies of African agro-industry; and undertaking typology studies for fertilizers, agro-food, and pesticides applying the integrated programme approach developed by UNIDO.

197. Current major outputs and activities in the food-processing industries are the development of technologies for local processing of raw materials into food products in Africa. In this context, the African sugar industry development programme will play a leading role, as it includes the rehabilitation of sugar estates and factories in 12 African countries, the establishment of two sugar industry development centres in east and west Africa.

198. UNIDO's support in promoting industrial production units in rural areas will continue to upgrading, extending and diversifying the capabilities of the traditional informal sector, in particular as regards technical assistance for the transfer and adaptation of appropriate technologies, training, quality control and marketing.

199. Activities in the animal-based food processing industries sector will focus on introducing appropriate meat-processing operations, with a view to improving quality control and the utilization of by-products and residues.

Moreover, the conservation, preservation, cold storage, transportation and distribution of fish and meat products will also be developed.

(iii) Protection of the environment

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

200. The issues, priorities and goals with regard to the African environment are clearly spelt out in the major Agendas/Programmes of Action adopted by African countries such as the Regional Programme of Action on the Environment of the African Ministerial Conference (AMCEN 1985); the Agendas for Action/Committal Declarations on Environment and Sustainable Development of the Kampala (1989), Bamako (1991) as well as African Preparatory Conferences on UNCED. These are now embodied in the African Common Position on Environment and Development which was endorsed by the OAU and submitted to UNCED.

201. The development crisis in Africa before and during the first UNPAAERD (1986-90), reflects a breakdown in natural resource management. It has led to a marked reduction in the current capacity of the land and destruction of its biological potential. The environment - the natural resource - has suffered from depletion and degradation and in some areas, it has been destroyed to such an extent that its rehabilitation must be given priority. The rate of deforestation in Africa is still increasing, despite current national and international efforts initiated during the past decade. Its economic, social, political and environmental consequences have become more obvious in current times.

202. Furthermore, there is a growing awareness among the political leadership in Africa concerning the negative impact of some development activities on the natural resource base.

203. The Programmes/Agendas for Action consolidated the process and led to a series of actions e.g.: The establishment and strengthening of Environmental Management Machineries and the initiation of common interest subregional and regional cooperation activities for addressing environmental management and sustainable development concerns.

204. Over the next few decades overuse of "renewable" resources such as water became an immediate threat to sustainable development in view of the faster rate of use than of replacement. Additional to deficient land and water management, the growing population pressure is exacerbating the continent's environmental problems. There is thus a need to formulate programmes to protect the environment which will take into account the balance between population growth and the regenerative capacity of the environment thus making sustainable development possible.

(b) Current and planned activities

UNEP

205. The catalytic and coordinating role and functions of UNEP in providing assistance to African countries have recently expanded substantially as a result of major regional and global development as well as initiatives. Added to these are the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, the UNEP document on Environmental Perspectives to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

206. A primary role of UNEP's Programme in Africa has been to help reinforce national machineries dealing with environment to enable them to meet their challenges in this subject area. Attention is being increasingly directed to critical areas such as strengthening of environmental management institutions; strengthening of environmental legislation; introduction of programmes for environmental education, training, public information and awareness; other sectoral issues of concern related to, inter alia, desertification, food-security, energy, species and ecosystem, water resources, pollution, environmental monitoring and financial resources etc.; integration of environmental consideration into development.

207. In Africa, UNEP's principal focus in this field of activity has been to encourage the development and strengthening of environmental institutions, particularly at national level, to bring about a better integration of environmental factors into sectoral policies and activities. UNEP has assisted and continues to assist African countries to develop environmental machinery, adopt appropriate environmental management policies and strategies, formulate and implement environmentally sound projects and broaden the use of available tools, such as environmental impact assessment, environmental cost-benefit analysis and environmental accounting, in an effort to achieve environmentally sound and sustainable development. UNEP's concern has also been and will continue to be focused on measuring environmental trends and indicators of change and is monitoring physical indicators.

208. In the implementation of the System-wide Plan, two aspects of protection of land resources in Africa will continue to receive special attention in UNEP's actions i.e. combating desertification and deforestation. The activities being carried out by UNEP, in cooperation with the United Nations agencies e.g. the UNDP, UNSO, FAO, UNESCO, etc., have been designed to assist Governments to carry out actions to combat desertification and also to move towards developing capabilities for assessing, predicting and alleviating consequences of drought. Several African Governments have been and are being assisted to devise national plans of action to combat desertification and a series of projects to implement them. Subregional organizations dealing with drought and desertification, established by African Governments such as CILSS, IGADD, SADCC, ECOWAS, etc. are assisted in implementing their programmes. Within the Programme of AMCEN, UNEP provides all necessary support to the African Committee on Desert and Arid Lands.

209. Major initiatives have been launched in the last 10 years such as the Tropical Forest Action Plan and the International Tropical Timber Agreement. UNEP will continue its collaboration with the FAO (and other relevant bodies) in the implementation of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

210. UNEP is and will continue implementing, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, four action plans covering the seas and ocean areas surrounding the African continent which are, the Mediterranean Action Plan, the West and Central African Plan, the Red Seas and Gulf of Aden Action Plan and the Eastern African Action Plan. Each of the Regional Seas Action Plan contains certain elements namely: environmental assessment, environmental management, institutional and financial arrangements, legal components. Also, UNEP in cooperation with a number of United Nations bodies and agencies, is focusing its attention on the preparation and implementation of Action Plans for the environmentally sound management of inland waters.

211. The Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) and the Global Resource Information Data Base (GRID) will continue to enhance national and subregional capabilities aimed at assessing the distribution and abundance of renewable natural resources, monitoring their rate of use and regeneration, measuring the impacts of development on the resource base, and monitoring the rates and impacts of environmental change. At the national level, GEMS is reviewing national monitoring capabilities with the objective of enhancing methods, training and institutional linkages. The programme currently aims at completing 10 national level reviews each year.

212. With regard to hazardous wastes, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements and disposal of hazardous wastes was adopted through the initiative of UNEP and its partners in the United Nations system. The secretariat functions of the Convention are being carried out, on an interim basis, by UNEP. Its main work is to implement the resolutions adopted by the Basel Conference and to encourage the elaboration of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes envisaged in the Convention.

213. Apart from AMCEN, UNEP, together with the ECA and other United Nations bodies, is supporting the implementation of major institutions such as the agenda for action for achieving sustainable development in Africa (Kampala Conference, 1989) and the African Common Position on Environment and Development (which was prepared and developed with the assistance of UNEP, ECA, OAU, UNDP, UNSO, ADB and the UNCED secretariat). The Common Position which also responds to the spirit of African integration and interdependence provides a framework for dialogue on the links between environment and development. Its environment and development agenda equally provides a suitable framework for the integration of environmental concerns into development processes in the Africa region. UNEP will play an active role in the post-UNCED follow-up recommended by the African countries for the implementation of the Programme of Activities of the African Common Position on Environment and Development.

214. UNEP will continue strengthening current strategies for encouraging environmental factors in the preparation of national development plans. The success of the national development plans of African countries will largely depend on ensuring the ecological sustainability of such plans or national policies/programmes of key sectoral agencies. UNEP will continue to assist in this regard by providing advisory services for building environment into the mandates of such ministries, by integrating environment effectively into their development plans, policies and activities. Another assistance that will be further provided relate to the introduction of environmental screening and impact assessment requirements into the approval processes of the Government in the implementation of National Development Plans.

215. It was for the promotion of subregional cooperation in the field of the environment that UNEP established Subregional Environment Groups (SREGS) respectively for Western, Southern, Eastern, Northern and Central Africa. The network of SREGS, provides a means for productive cooperation in the management of the African environment. Within the context of the New United Nations Plan for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development, there will be renewed efforts, on the part of UNEP, to provide additional and substantial support to these Subregional Environment Groups.

ECA

216. In the future, ECA's environment and development programme activities will focus on such key areas as coordination with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on environmental matters relating to Africa's socio-economic recovery and transformation, capacity building through workshops and environmental monitoring guidelines, environmental awareness through newsletters and other publications, and group training.

217. ECA will continue to provide advisory services, workshops, seminars, fellowships and study to help member States in developing national capabilities and programmes for environment management, assessment and conservation for sustainable environmentally sound development. In addition, research studies on issues of regional environment will be carried out. The related findings will be used to promote environmental awareness at the grassroots level.

UNCHS

218. Under the UNCHS programme area of "Infrastructure Development", increased emphasis will be given to the protection of the environment through the provision of appropriate settlement infrastructure facilities. In particular, research and technical assistance will be extended in the areas of "Drinking Water Supplies and Sanitation", "Water and Sustainable Urban Development", and Environmentally-sound Management of Solid Wastes and Sewage-Related Issues.

World Bank

219. The Bank is working with a number of African countries on environmental action plans. Indeed, the Bank has been instrumental in helping to form the "Club of Dublin", which involves 18 African countries in implementing full-fledged national environmental action plans, with donors agreeing to fund these plans. Every Bank project for Africa now includes an up-front environmental assessment. On the question of tropical forests, the policy of the World Bank is not to finance any forestry project unless it can be demonstrated that it is environmentally sustainable.

220. To improve donor coordination, the Bank has set up a Donor Secretariat, initially for the Madagascar Environment Action Plan, but now extending its services to other countries engaged in the implementation of national environmental action plans. Another secretariat has been established to support the multidonor Programme on Environmental Information Systems.

UNDP

221. In the area of promotion of the environment and sustainable development, UNDP undertakes the preparation and approves projects for funding under the Global Environment Facility. Current and continuous activities also include: support to preparation and implementation of national environmental plans, and establishing Regional Environment Centres.

UNIFEM

222. UNIFEM is committed to supporting programmes that are environmentally sound and to including environmental monitoring concerns in its new programme initiatives. UNIFEM will implement additional programmes on the basis of Agenda 21 and will seek opportunities to collaborate with UNDP within the Global Environment Facility. Planned activities include increased collaboration with UNDP under its Africa 2000 programme and in providing support for developing environmental management training for grassroots groups, through partnership with national NGOs.

UNESCO

223. UNESCO will support training courses and post-graduate seminars on the earth sciences, and will attempt to secure the attendance of a high proportion of women from the least developed countries and Africa at these events. The production of small-scale thematic continental maps, in conjunction with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World, will be centred on the preparation and publication of the Tectonic Map of Africa. Assistance will be given to geodata information networks. Pilot studies will be undertaken to improve the ecologically rational evaluation and exploitation of the mineral resources of the pre-Cambrian belts in the least developed African countries.

224. Member States will be helped to strengthen their MAB National Committees and to play a more effective part in the MAB programme and in the formulation

and implementation of regional strategies. Field units will be more particularly responsible for helping to design and prepare projects likely to receive bilateral or multilateral aid.

225. The importance of conserving the biological diversity of the natural heritage is paramount. To this end UNESCO will support Member States' programmes of biosphere reserves so as to assist in their proper protection and utilisation.

226. UNESCO will continue to study the rehabilitation of tropical ecosystems, especially in the least developed countries and in Africa. The organization will also continue to cooperate in the Tropical Forestry Action Plan coordinated by FAO. In conjunction with the UNESCO MIRCEN network, it will support the tropical soil biology and fertility programme and savannah research.

227. In matters relating to arid and semi-arid lands and Mediterranean ecosystems, UNESCO will help Sahelian and Mediterranean countries to make fullest use of their agro-sylvo-pastoral resources, precedence being given to agroforestry programmes; and the organization will participate in activities undertaken by the United Nations to combat desertification. MAB research grants will be awarded to young scientists.

WFP

228. WFP has commitments worth more than $300 million for environmental activities in sub-Saharan Africa. Forestry activities account for the greatest part (nearly half), followed by sustainable agricultural productivity (28 per cent) and physical conservation works (21 per cent). Future annual commitments to this important sector are likely to be in the order of $75 million.

229. Environmental projects usually require a substantial and sustained investment to achieve long-term effects. WFP is one of the few available sources of funding for this kind of activity: the Programme can support projects for many years without repayment or immediate commercial benefits. Food aid provides a Government with the means to undertake or expand a development project it could not otherwise afford. It also helps farmers in developing countries, who generally lack the capital to implement more environmentally benign practices or cannot afford to wait several years to recover an investment, cover the costs of initial investment in such activities.

UNFPA

230. In order to contribute to achieving a balance between population growth, consumption patterns, poverty and the natural resource base, UNFPA is augmenting its efforts to clarify the interrelationships between these elements and to assist Governments in developing integrated strategies and action programmes to address the challenge of population and sustainable development concerns.

231. In Africa, a major initiative has been undertaken to develop a dynamic model which will simulate the interaction between population parameters, the socio-economic structure and environmental factors, with an emphasis on examination of policy options for decision makers. The computer software and research/training methodologies developed under this project are expected to provide a conceptual framework for similar studies in other countries. UNFPA is also assisting selected countries in conducting research on population and environment relationships; implementing workshops/seminars on population and sustainable development; and integrating population and sustainable development components into the curricula of primary and secondary schools.

232. After the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), UNFPA intends to organize a regional conference to review and discuss the implications of the UNCED recommendations within the population and sustainable development context of Africa.

FAO

233. On the recommendation of its Commission on Fertilizers, FAO has begun work to develop a framework programme for national strategies to conserve and regenerate soil fertility. In collaboration with the International Fertilizer Development Center, FAO is to support an African Fertilizer Trade and Marketing Information Network. Joint FAO/WMO seminars on the application of climatic data for irrigation planning and management are under way. Work has begun in some countries to develop land conservation and reclamation programmes.

234. In 1990, two new Special Action Programmes (SAPs) have been launched: the International Action Programme on Water and Sustainable Agricultural Development, and the International Scheme for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of African Lands.

235. Both programmes aim to assist member States with the planning, development and management of water resources to satisfy present and future demands for agricultural production and other purposes, and to respond to the massive loss of soil, drop in yields, of deforestation, and destruction of national pastures affecting large areas of Africa.

236. The Forest Resources Assessment 1990 will provide updated information on the situation of forest resources in the Region and on the major trends in and location of forest degradation. It is intended that this activity will continue and that it will provide a systematic observation of the forests and of the dynamics of change.

237. Assistance is also increasing in the area of effective protection and management of natural parks, nature reserves and in situ conservation of genetic resources.

IFAD

238. The rural poor in marginal areas are caught in a vicious cycle between poverty and environmental degradation. IFAD projects, especially those under the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa launched in 1986, combine short-term crop intensification with longer-term participatory measures for environmental rehabilitation, such as agro-forestry, small-scale irrigation and conservation-oriented farming practices. Support for off-farm activities and micro-enterprise development is another growing priority designed to open up ecologically sustainable forms of livelihood for the landless. These elements will be among the central aims of the proposed Second Phase of IFAD's Special Programme.

ILO

239. Action in this field emphasizes the global nature of working conditions and environmental problems and their effects on socio-economic development. It also emphasizes the concept of integrated safety and health as an element of productive employment.

240. In response to these issues, ILO will assist member States in strengthening factory inspection services in Africa. In addition, a large regional project covering a number of African countries will be executed by the ILO with the objective of improving the capacities of the participating Governments to collect and disseminate practical information on safety and health and to provide training in this field.

241. ILO's intervention should also play a role in heightening awareness about and providing information and training on chemical safety and major hazard control. The regional project in particular will contribute to the development of realistic and effective national policies for the improvement of occupational safety and health and working conditions, as well as strengthen local institutions and their technical capabilities through network arrangements.

UNIDO

242. With respect to environment and energy, the medium-term plan of UNIDO describes the Organization's objectives as ensuring the environmental sustainability of industrial development and maximizing the beneficial impact of industry on the quality of life by minimizing its adverse environmental effects. The priorities are: conducting in-house staff training to augment the Organization's capacity to deal with industry-related environmental issues; developing practical guidelines to assess the environmental impact of industry; undertaking informational, advisory and promotional efforts to support the adoption of clean, low-waste energy-efficient and recycling or re-use technologies; providing technical assistance in implementing pollution-control measures, as well as associated research, advisory and support activities and introducing energy-efficient technologies, particularly in energy-intensive industries, in order to realise economies of production.

243. Pursuance of the objectives identified in the medium-term plan and of the Programme Budget, UNIDO is expected to finalise and implement several programmes and projects in the field of protection and environment in Africa. Among them, two key programmes are: the demonstration of cleaner production techniques to assist cement and sugar cane industries in Africa carrying out waste reduction audits and implementing identified waste minimization opportunities; and regional programme for the utilisation of agricultural residues for charcoal production in Africa.

244. In the view of the ever-increasing concern about environment and sustainable development, in the biennium 1994-95 UNIDO is expected to intensify its efforts in Africa covering the issues identified in the UNIDO programme for environment and energy.

WMO

245. WMO will continue developing and implementing technical assistance projects in the areas of meteorology, hydrology and environmental monitoring, with the objective of strengthening the national and regional capabilities of the African Governments in these areas. The resources foreseen to carry out the above-mentioned activities are estimated to be in the order of US$ 20 million per year.

(iv) Human development and popular participation

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

246. The Africa region as a whole has achieved improvements in its human development in recent decades, yet considerable human deprivation remains. The region still has the lowest life expectancy of all the developing regions, the highest infant and maternal mortality rates and the lowest literacy rates. Further improvement in human development in Africa must therefore become a priority. This would involve, inter alia, the strengthening of higher-level education and functional literacy, more indigenous technological development, improved delivery of higher quality medical and social services and the enhancement of African skills and institutions. The activities of the various United Nations organs, agencies and bodies in the promotion of greater human development will need to be undertaken within this framework.

247. A major factor limiting the growth of the industrial sector of African countries is the shortage of skilled manpower, and specialized technical and managerial capabilities. This shortage is aggravated by inadequacies in the educational system, and in the vocational/apprenticeship and in-plant training programmes and training systems. Human resource development activities should aim at building up coherent and sustainable systems for upgrading local technological skills and managerial and entrepreneurial capabilities and integrating them into the industrial development process.

248. It is vital for capacity building to take place in all sectors in African countries. In agriculture, the focus should be on strengthening national cooperative movements so that a transition to self-managed, self-financing and membership-oriented organizations can be achieved. Priority should therefore be given to training Africans in these critical areas.

249. As for Women in Development efforts should aim at effectively raising women's levels of education, literacy and skills, all of which are crucial for the fuller participation of women in development and to the well-being and development of human capacity in Africa.

250. The attainment of proper health care for all Africans is another priority goal, for to save lives and improve the quality of life greatly enhances the fostering of sustainable development. Even though the situation is improving, yet the vital statistics for Africa are bleak, compared with the rest of the world.

251. Priority should be given to maternal and child health including family planning, water supply and sanitation, environmental health, nutrition, basic health education and the reduction of the incidence of major diseases. Of particular importance is the fight against AIDS which Africa must now wage, since this disease threatens the foundation for development throughout the continent as not only is the disease threatening to destroy the already fragile health systems, but it also poses a serious threat to the social and economic fabric.

252. Priority should also be given to ensuring the access of essential drugs and vaccines for the prevention and treatment of diseases as over 50 per cent of the population of many African countries have no access to them. Many countries do not have the most basic infrastructures to deliver a reliable and rational supply of these essential drugs. Further exacerbating the problem is that even when drugs are available, they are often expensive, of low quality, or inappropriate to treat the conditions at hand. The use of illicit drugs and drug trafficking is another situation that poses a challenge to African Governments which have limited resources to deal with already existing socio-economic problems. As in other areas of the world, drug abuse in Africa undermines social stability, contributes to rising crime rates and weakens the human potential vital to economic development.

253. A special focus needs to be placed on the development and strengthening of national health infrastructure to ensure efficient delivery of primary health care including child spacing activities. In this context, special attention should be given to improved management of district or local level of administration. Efforts should also be made to integrate the promotion of health into economic policies and development strategies in order to break the cycle of poverty and inequality.

254. In general, health and socio-economic damages induced by occupational hazards at work are underestimated. Therefore, priority must be given to health protection and promotion at the work place. A shift from traditional

to modern occupational health hazards requires the development of comprehensive occupational health services in the public health system.

255. More support is necessary to deal with the massive increase in refugees and displaced persons as a result of disasters due to drought and famine, wars and civil strife. Assistance should not only be in the form of financial aid but also in developing disaster preparedness programmes.

256. Africa's population growth and fertility rates are the highest in the world. According to the United Nations population estimates and projections, the region's population, estimated at 224 million in 1950 and 486 million in 1981, will increase to more than 600 million by the end of 1991 and is expected to exceed 800 million by the year 2000. The rapid rate of population growth, more than 3 per cent annually, stems from a combination of high crude birth rate with declining but still relatively high crude death rates.

257. The sharp upward curve in Africa's population growth rate poses serious challenges to the continent's prospects for economic recovery and development. In view of the realization of the importance of population to sustainable economic development and growth, policy makers in most African countries now agree that greater efforts have to be channelled into the population and development sector.

258. The educational systems in Africa are overwhelmed by population growth and constrained by lack of resources. Moreover, in many instances, countries suffer from a severe shortage of trained teachers, school buildings, instruction materials and even such basic items as pens or paper. A high priority has to be given to improving the quality and efficiency of the educational systems in African countries. Curriculum reform is necessary so that educational systems at all levels ensure that the skills, knowledge and attitudes that are relevant to Africa's developmental needs are generated. Emphasis should also be placed on intensification of efforts to promote mass literacy and adult learning programmes.

259. Special attention should be accorded to UNESCO's special programme of action for Africa entitled "Priority Africa" which aims at the development of all the member States of the Organization of African Unity. Its four main components are education, science and technology, culture and communication.

260. Training activities should be geared towards particular sectors and manpower needs of African countries in support of national efforts towards economic recovery and development. Of particular importance is the need to strengthen community-based vocational and other specialized training systems to address employment needs and manpower requirements both at the national and local levels for both urban and rural economies.

261. Assistance should be given to support the development of human resources through the inclusion of education and training components designed to provide functional literacy and raise competence levels for better management and improved performance. Mechanisms should be established to ensure that proper

training in possible expanding sectors is provided to retrenched workers as a result of structural adjustment programmes so that they may be more easily reabsorbed into productive employment in the labour force.

262. Drug abuse and trafficking are rapidly spreading throughout Africa. It is already posing serious problems to several countries and potential risk for many others. The situation poses a challenge to African Governments, which have limited resources to deal with already existing socio-economic problems. As in other areas of the world, drug abuse in Africa undermines social stability, contributes to rising crime rates and weakens the human potential vital to economic development.

(b) Current and planned activities

United Nations

263. In the area of population the Department of Economic and Social Development undertakes many activities that are relevant to the achievement of the human development goals of the countries of Africa. A primary undertaking in this regard is the demographic aspect of the United Nations work, the monitoring of demographic levels and trends of growth, fertility, mortality, internal and international migration. The Department will continue to provide demographic estimates for such variables as life expectancy, infant and child mortality, fertility and international migration, but also projections of these and other demographic parameters for the countries of Africa.

264. The monitoring and research of African population policies is another important aspect of the United Nations work in this area. Although population policies have been adopted by most African Governments representing significant policy changes that have taken place in Africa since the 1974 World Population Conference, questions remain regarding the effective implementation of population policies and the integration of population factors into the development process. In particular, the impact of these policies and national programmes on demographic trends and human development continues to be a fundamental issue to be addressed. The United Nations will continue to monitor and provide advice to African Governments in this regard.

265. The monitoring of demographic levels and trends, which is a primary undertaking of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development, is an integral part of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. During the coming years, the Population Division will continue to provide not only demographic estimates for such variables as life expectancy, infant and child mortality, urbanization, fertility and international migration, but also projections of these and other demographic parameters for the countries of Africa. The Division is also projecting, on a trial basis, the demographic impact of AIDS for a selected number of sub-Saharan African countries in which AIDS is especially problematic.

266. In the area of technical cooperation, the Division has been active in a variety of activities and projects. Included among these activities are training, workshops, advisory and consultancy services relating to population matters. The future needs for technical cooperation in Africa are perhaps the most pressing of all the developing regions, especially given that over half of the least developed countries are in Africa.

267. Certainly, the Population Division will continue its activities with regard to the system-wide plan of action on the economic recovery of Africa. However, to undertake more than what is currently indicated in the programme of activities would require additional resources.

268. The Department is also planning to implement an interregional project on the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS in developing countries. The study will be undertaken in close collaboration with interested United Nations organizations and is intended to carry out a quantitative assessment of the potential socio-economic impact of the disease on key economic sectors (particularly the export sector) and informal sectors in a number of developing countries worldwide. The results would provide national and international policy makers with the lead-time required to consider appropriate policy responses in line with their particular needs and goals. Initial case studies will be undertaken in Eastern or Central African countries.

269. In the area of popular consultations, given the increasing importance of activities in the electoral field, the Secretary-General has designated a senior official, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, as the Focal Point in electoral matters, and an Electoral Assistance Unit has been established within the Department of Political Affairs. The Focal Point, assisted by the Unit, will ensure consistency in the handling of requests for technical assistance, ensure coordination within the United Nations system, and establish and maintain adequate working arrangements with other organizations active in the electoral field.

270. In the last 12 months, requests ranging from the sending of observers to the provision of technical assistance have been received from 18 African Governments, and responses are being processed. In the future, the Unit will also endeavour to offer services or develop activities in a number of related areas: (i) Procedures and guidelines for the handling of requests for electoral assistance; (ii) Permanent mechanism for exchange of information and/or coordination of technical assistance with donor countries; (iii) Roster of experts and consultants; (iv) Workshop for electoral consultants; (v) Databanks and information systems on electoral issues; (vi) African electoral institutions and their experiences in the creation and start-up of networks of electoral organizations; (vii) A trust fund for electoral qualification; (viii) A trust fund for the provision of technical assistance; and (ix) The development of guidelines and training materials for electoral observers and electoral verification missions.

ECA

271. In line with the move of the continent towards systems of governance, human resources planning, development and utilization will be a priority. ECA will assist member States in planning, designing, managing, monitoring and evaluating human resources development and utilization by organizing training workshops, seminars and conferences for senior government officials and personnel from both the private and parastatal sectors. ECA will also provide advisory services to member States on manpower and employment planning, assist them in strengthening their institutional machinery for human resources development and utilization, and evaluate education and training programmes. ECA will prepare technical publications on how to increase the effectiveness of human resources in such areas as agriculture and agro-industries, and on ways of reducing the brain drain from Africa.

272. ECA will support the efforts of member States in developing policies, programmes and services for the effective integration of youth, disabled persons and the elderly in social and economic life and for the prevention of crime and juvenile delinquency; the administration of criminal and juvenile justice in the context of overall national development.

273. A number of activities will be undertaken, including action-oriented research, training courses, workshops, seminars, expert meetings, study tours; support in the establishment and strengthening of regional institutions and coordinating bodies; and technical advisory services to assist in the development of relevant social policies, programmes and services. ECA will also cooperate with regional institutions.

274. Within the framework of the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa beyond the United Nations Decade for Women and the Abuja Declaration, ECA will assist the member States towards increased participation of women in the socio-economic development of the region. The African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) will aim at promoting employment, productive resources and income for women, enhanced participation of women in decision-making, and strengthening of the database and information networks for the formulation of policies and programmes for women.

275. In the demographic field, the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action (KPA) adopted in 1984 has been the main basis for the African Regional Population Programme implemented by ECA. The thrust of the programme of action is that ECA member States should ensure that the endogenization of population factors in the development planning process is a key priority in their overall development strategy.

276. During the current (1992-1993) and next (1994-1995) bienniums, the Africa Regional Population Programme will emphasize (i) concerns in emerging areas of population dynamics, such as the policy implications of the interrelationships between infant/child mortality and fertility levels; the socio-economic impact of refugee movements; evaluation of urban migration policies; (ii) assessment of population policy development in the 1990s; (iii) assessment of

methodologies from WFS and DHS and their implications for future demographic inquiries; (iv) assessment of interrelationships between environment and population factors and their influence on socio-economic development planning; (v) alternatives to traditional approaches in the development of family planning programmes; (vi) status/role of women in the development planning process; (vii) evaluation of existing infrastructural arrangements for TPDP; (viii) contribution of traditional birth attendants in the health delivery system; and (ix) manuals from IPDP at the educational/health sector levels.

UNCTAD

277. The need for human resource development and capacity building in the area of science and technology has been highlighted in the New Agenda for the 1990s. In this regard UNCTAD could make a contribution by organizing a training programme aimed at upgrading skills and capabilities for technology negotiation, acquisition, selection, utilization and strengthening the existing regional and subregional organizations, and specific seminars/workshops could be organized in each subregion geared towards coordinating and supplementing the organization's efforts in the area of technology.

UNCHS

278. UNCHS (Habitat) has been actively involved for many years in the provision of technical assistance to displaced persons, and the Liberation Movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity. In the light of current developments in South Africa, UNCHS in consultation with the bureau of the AFRICA Fund Committee has elaborated the preparatory phase of a project proposal in support of returning South African refugees.

279. In line with General Assembly resolution 43/181 on the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, as well as the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, UNCHS will undertake during the 1992-1997 Medium-term Plan for Human Settlements, the following additional activities: (a) training workshops for women in environmental management and sustainable subsistence living for their communities; and (b) income-generating, environmentally sound enterprises especially production of local building materials.

280. The Centre has formulated a programme for local capacity-building in the building materials sector for sub-Saharan Africa. A flexible demand-driven approach will be followed to implement it with emphasis on the diffusion and transfer of technology at country-level, and research and training at subregional level. The programme is expected to commence in 1992 and completed by 2000.

UNDCP

281. The main areas of UNDCP's operations in Africa have so far been and will continue to be the following: development of national legislation, training activities, aid to law enforcement services, preventive education and rehabilitation programmes, and prevention of diversion into illicit channels of drugs intended for medical and scientific purposes. Relative priorities will be assigned in keeping with the evolving drug situation and with requests received.

282. Both current and planned action are based on the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline and the Global Programme of Action, with reference to the Medium-term Plan 1984-89 extended to 1990-91 by General Assembly resolution 42/215.

283. Under the project entitled West African Regulations and Legislation, UNDCP provides advisory services and training on legislation and pharmacy control to West African States with a view to enabling them to adopt laws adequate to drug control. Model laws are being prepared in consultation with the Governments concerned. The project is also meant to prompt accession to international drug control treaties of the 17 African countries which are still not yet parties to any of those instruments. Expansion to countries of Central Africa is envisaged for the future.

284. Under the project laboratory development, UNDCP is helping to develop the capability of 22 African States to identify drugs seized in illicit traffic. Laboratory equipment is provided along with training for its appropriate use. The second phase of the project, which started in 1991, extends the assistance to other countries.

285. UNDCP is also financing training courses for professionals from all English- and French-speaking African countries with responsibility for demand reduction, including doctors. UNDCP is financing the elaboration of an African psychotropic formulary which is aimed at promoting rational prescribing of medicines containing psychotropic substances and, as a consequence, prevent risks of their abuse. The formulary is currently in final draft. UNDCP assists the relevant staff of the Drug Control in 28 African countries with special training in control mechanisms established under the existing treaties.

286. The first phase of a project on demand reduction has been initiated by UNDCP in two countries. It entails an extensive inquiry at the local level of the mechanisms of street markets as a channel of distribution of drugs, particularly psychotropic substances. The findings will be used to determine appropriate steps to be taken in order to deal with the demand and supply of the drugs sold in those markets.

287. UNDCP is undertaking law enforcement projects in 31 African countries to address the increasingly serious illicit drug trafficking throughout Africa by strengthening national law enforcement services. This entails the supply to

the police, gendarmerie, customs, etc., of equipment required for their operations and training for their staff.

288. UNDCP has implemented preventive education, treatment and rehabilitative projects to address the situation of potential drug demand and current drug abuse in 14 countries. Manpower development and awareness raising has emerged as areas of emphasis vital to success in such projects. A UNDCP project on crop replacement has been implemented which aims at providing farmers in an initial pilot area with alternative incomes and an improved standard of living.

289. Most of the activities planned or envisaged will be followed up on current projects mainly by extending the project activities to additional countries. Other activities include the possible creation of regional training centres for African Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and an assessment of the extent and patterns of drug abuse in selected African countries where such abuse has most expanded. UNDCP envisages funding WHO action-oriented surveys whose findings will benefit future programmes for preventive education.

UNICEF

290. UNICEF's programme of action in Africa for the next decade is articulated through the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children. It encompasses five major areas of activities, namely: integrated primary health care, with special emphasis on child and maternal health; food and nutrition; safe water supply and environmental sanitation; basic education with special emphasis on girls and women; and children in especially difficult circumstances. It contains seven major goals to be achieved supported by 20 supporting goals including precise targets for infant mortality reduction, maternal mortality reduction, reductions in the incidence of disease, along with goals for child education and the protection of children. The Declaration and Plan of Action call upon each national government to prepare a National Programme of Action for 1992 for the implementation of the summit goals. In many countries, these Programmes of Action will serve as a major reference point in the national planning and budget process, as well as the mobilisation of aid flows. They are likely to become, with periodic revisions, the 10-year Perspective Plans for Children and Women in nearly all countries of the world.

291. Several countries have already adopted goals that reflect national development priorities. For those African countries still experiencing conflicts, UNICEF will continue its efforts to promote "corridors of peace" and "children as a zone of peace". Efforts will also be made, once the conflict has ended, to make children the focus of peace and reconciliation.

292. Regarding the control of diarrhoeal diseases, UNICEF is supporting a more holistic approach, focusing on correct case management, nutrition, breast-feeding and water and sanitation.

293. AIDS and malaria are two factors that greatly affect the ability of African countries to reach the decade goals, especially in the areas of health

and nutrition. UNICEF's anti-AIDS strategy will complement WHO and other donor efforts centring on prevention through information, education, social mobilization and training of health workers as well as measures to assist AIDS orphans. UNICEF's efforts to fight malaria will combine improved diagnosis and treatment with the promotion of insecticide-impregnated bed nets and better management of the environment to control and ultimately reduce mosquito breeding.

294. In collaboration with other concerned United Nations organs, agencies and bodies, UNICEF is developing community-based nutrition surveillance and early warning systems which should generate basic food and nutrition data. UNICEF is also increasing its support to household food security programmes and community-based growth monitoring and promotion.

295. In the field of water supply, considerable progress has been made in national capacity-building and community management. Further progress is achievable in the areas of Guinea worm eradication where programmes are on course in four countries, elimination of dracunculiasis, sanitation with support to latrine construction and more focus on hygiene education.

296. In education, emphasis will be placed on improving the quality and efficiency of the system. More flexible approaches will be developed to cater for the needs of the still-unreached groups and children in difficult circumstances.

297. Greater attention will be devoted to the improvement of the situation of African women with respect to their empowerment, workload, education and access to income.

298. The 1991 Executive Board declared Africa as the "Continent of First Priority" for UNICEF. All parts of the organization will contribute to assuring this priority is observed.

World Bank

299. The African Capacity Building Initiative (ACBI) of the World Bank focuses on the critical questions of strengthening African skills and institutions for policy analysis and development management. The long-term objectives of the programme are for sub-Saharan Africa to have its own core of top-flight policy analysts and development managers over the next 10 to 20 years, and thus be in a much better position to control its economic destiny.

300. The Bank's Operational Services Division (AFTOS) is fundamental to improving the implementation culture of the African region across all sectors and goes to the core of transparency and accountability aspects of governance issues. AFTOS's main mission is to assist in enhancing quality of operations, strengthening the region's implementation culture, improving governance in member countries and transferring the best practices in accounting and auditing, procurement and design and management and delivery of technical assistance.

301. Education is another priority area where a Bank initiative has helped to forge consensus among African Governments and donors on approaches to improve education systems. As a follow-up to the Bank's 1988 "Education Policy Paper", a number of sub-Saharan African countries are now implementing IDA-supported education sector adjustment operations. Moreover, 25 donors to African education meet regularly to discuss concrete steps to improve their coordination of externally funded action programmes.

302. During the next three years, the Bank's lending for education and training in Africa will focus on, among other areas, finding solutions to specific educational issues (e.g. female participation, effective schools and universities, science education), while giving particular attention to the questions of employment generation, labour utilization and the linkages between education and market forces.

303. The role of women in development (WID) is another issue to which the Bank is giving special emphasis. Women are at the heart of most of the problems identified in the LTPS. Women's levels of education, literacy, and so forth, are crucial to the well-being and development of human capacity in Africa. For several years, the World Bank has been increasing its WID studies and activities.

304. To promote gender-responsive development, a full-time women in development coordinator was appointed and a WID unit established in 1991. The unit provides substantive conceptual analysis and policy direction to improve the quality and quantity of gender-responsive operational work, supporting country economic and social development objectives.

305. The World Bank is giving special emphasis in its research and lending work to the area of population. It is trying to generate a consensus in the region on the need for family planning, safe motherhood, and child spacing and working with the UNFPA and International Planned Parenthood to prepare action programmes and an agenda for the 1990s. It is undertaking a regional study on: the "nexus" or linkages between population growth, agricultural productivity and the environment.

306. A major objective is the reduction of fertility by the year 2020. Also, an African Region Task Force on Population has recommended the strengthening of policy dialogue; establishing and strengthening population programmes; supporting key actions at the regional and subregional levels and strengthening the Bank's internal capacity.

UNDP

307. UNDP will continue to be very active in operationalising the Human Development concept into development plans and programmes through a number of measures such as the organisation of a seminar of technical experts to refine HDR concepts to reflect Africa concerns; the preparation of a Regional ministerial conference on operationalising Human Development, and the undertaking of Field Human Development programming missions to pilot countries.

308. UNDP will continue to support the development of human resources in Africa through an improvement of the systems of technical cooperation assessment and programming (NATCAPs), verifying the impact of existing technical assistance activities in national economies, and in particular on the formation of national cadres, assisting African countries in reorienting technical assistance towards areas where needs for more qualified human resources are concentrated.

309. For the prevention and planning of HIV/AIDS epidemic, UNDP is involved in the following activities: the preparation of a policy paper and debate, at cluster meeting; assistance in developing strategies to combat HIV/AIDS at community, national and regional levels; and an advocacy role in communicating magnitude of impact and prevention.

310. UNDP will continue to place stress on the promotion of popular participation in development by organising subregional seminars to assist in translating Arusha Charter on popular participation into national programmes and projects; promoting cooperation among NGOs, Governments and UNDP; financing innovative community based development initiatives through Partners in Development programmes and regular programmes; conducting sensitization seminars on gender and development of government and UNDP staff; and providing policy/programme advice on gender issues in development for regional, national and community level plans and programmes. Support is being provided in many of these areas through UNDP's Regional Bureau for Africa 1992 Management Plan.

UNFPA

311. Within the context of the 1987 Strategy for UNFPA Assistance to Sub-Saharan Africa, UNFPA has established three priority areas specifically addressing the issue of human development and popular participation:

(1) Intensifying public information, education and communication (IEC) programmes to encourage attitudinal change with regards to family welfare and family planning;

(2) Supporting birth-spacing/family planning information and service programmes; and

(3) Contributing to the improvement of the status of women.

312. IEC programmes and projects constitute an essential tool for enhancing the knowledge of population dynamics related to available resources at both micro and macro levels, and for creating favourable attitudes towards family planning. UNFPA will thus continue to strengthen, in the field of population IEC, institutions in charge of development support communication; support awareness creation activities for the general population and leadership groups, including parliamentarians, government ministers, community and religious leaders, and journalists; and support the integration of population and development/family life education in school curricula, in post-literacy programmes; in agricultural colleges and programmes for agricultural extension

agents; in labour management colleges and colleges for mass communications; and in public administration colleges.

313. As a result of the conclusions of an appraisal of more than 250 IEC projects in East and Southern Africa, UNFPA will concentrate on human resource development and training in order to strengthen the management of IEC programmes.

314. The guiding principles of the Africa Strategy include assistance to all countries in promoting Safe Motherhood by providing better access to information on birth-spacing and family planning and in improving the quality of health services in order to reduce infant and early childhood mortality, maternal morbidity and mortality, and high rates of fertility. To those ends, UNFPA is supporting at least one integrated Mother, Child Health and Family Planning (MCH/FP) project in each country in the region. Under this sector support is also provided for information and counselling on infertility and on the issue of AIDS.

315. In support of national programming, UNFPA will continue to fund regional institutions which provide training programmes in clinical family planning, communication and management for MCH/FP personnel.

316. UNFPA's future programme will in particular focus on providing training in the management of MCH/FP programmes; provision of communication support for MCH/FP programmes; management information and logistics systems. It will also aim at strengthening national capabilities for research in socio-cultural determinants for fertility regulation, factors affecting the operation and success of family planning at the community level as well as research relating to type of services and training required to address adolescent sexuality and fertility; and levels and determinants of maternal mortality in Africa.

317. UNFPA recognises the impediments which confront women vis-à-vis fulfilment of their important role in the socio-economic development of African countries, and of the interrelationships between their status, fertility behaviour and the health and welfare of families and communities. UNFPA will therefore continue to support and strengthen Women in Development Bureaux within Government Ministries. Efforts will be made to promote the formulation of policies to improve women's status taking into account women's reproductive role and to develop national data bases on the status of women.

318. In order to strengthen the integration of women's concerns into all the sectors of its programmes, UNFPA will establish regional technical support services in women, population and development. As part of its effort to monitor the status of women in Africa, UNFPA is now formulating an Action Plan on Women, Population and Development in sub-Saharan Africa which will provide direction and guidance for future country and regional programmes in this area.

UNIFEM

319. UNIFEM's focus on women's development and community based programme support is designed to enhance peoples' participation and ownership of their own development. UNIFEM intends to seek further collaboration with UNICEF, UNDP, IFAD and other United Nations agencies to strengthen its programmes.

UNESCO

320. UNESCO has established a special programme of action for Africa - Priority: Africa - which fits into the context of the Lagos Plan of Action, and aimed at the development of all the member States of the Organisation of African Unity. Within the broad outline of this special programme, African countries are expected to communicate to UNESCO their special needs together with suggestions for specific projects.

321. The programme has four main components: education, science and technology, culture and communication.

322. UNESCO's planned activities for 1992/93 are the training of African specialists in techniques of project identification and preparation, distance education, information technology as an instrument of development, improving the planning, governance and management of higher education in Africa, development of learning/teaching materials for the improvement and adaptation of engineering education in Africa, schooling of girls in Africa; and production of teaching and learning materials for Portuguese-speaking African countries.

323. In addition to the above programme activities of the regular budget, UNESCO has also earmarked resources from the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa (SPAA) for a number of additional activities that are included in all the major programme areas of UNESCO. These are mainly small-scale training, seminar type and pilot project type activities.

324. Member States will be assisted in the formulation and implementation of strategies destined at strengthening their Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programmes. This will be done by awarding grants to scientists and managers from pilot projects to allow them to attend seminars and workshops organised in Africa.

325. A network of population education and population communication institutions will be established by UNESCO in conjunction with FAO, ILO and WHO. It will provide a framework in which these institutions will collaborate in the production, exchange and distribution of educational and informational materials. UNESCO will also undertake regional and subregional evaluations of university education in population-related subjects.

FAO

326. Human resource development in rural Africa to improve productivity, efficiency and living standards will continue through participatory extension programmes promoted by FAO. This will increasingly involve the integration of environmental conservation, population education and farming systems management into agricultural extension and agricultural education programmes. FAO is currently engaged in many projects and programmes in six African countries.

327. Another line of activity is to increase the quantity, quality, relevance and capacity of trained agricultural manpower through curriculum development. National capacities in the use of rural communication programmes to promote change and innovation are also being strengthened through specific country projects.

328. FAO will also support the introduction of improved technologies to facilitate women's work in food production processing and storage and to raise their incomes and productivity.

329. Land tenure strategies favouring small farmers, landless peasants and women farmers will be promoted. National seminars will be organised to better acquaint government officials with the technical aspects of land policy issues. Assistance to national activities in monitoring and evaluation of rural development and agrarian reform programmes will continue to be provided to Member nations in the region.

330. FAO will continue assistance in the organization and management of rural institutions including in the framework of structural adjustment programmes. National cooperative movements are to be strengthened in facilitating the transition to self-managed, self-financing and membership-oriented organizations. FAO will update surveys on trained manpower needs and resources, with special reference to fishermen and pastoralists. The principles of people's participation are to be promoted through strengthened contacts with NGOs and the facilitation of dialogue between government agencies and people's organizations.

331. FAO's community forestry programme has the objective to increase sustainable livelihoods for rural women and men through self-help management of trees and forest resources. The programme will strengthen the capacities of local institutions to provide effective support to the participation of local communities in sustainable forestry activities. Partnership approaches to local planning of forestry activities in the context of land use management are being developed. Training of field staff in incorporating gender considerations in forestry activities will be developed.

332. FAO will pursue collaboration with UNFPA in Africa through regional and national projects which assist countries to plan and implement population-education and communication activities in support of national population policies.

WFP

333. WFP has current commitments worth more than $1 billion for human resource development projects in sub-Saharan Africa - more than three-quarters of all WFP assistance to this development sector. The value of annual commitments for the coming years is likely to average $250 million.

334. Support to primary education is a major focus of WFP's human development work in Africa. Generally the continent suffers from a severe shortage of trained teachers, as well as school buildings, instruction materials and such basic items as pens or paper. Food aid, an incentive to encourage parents to send children to school, as well as improving learning capacity by overcoming short-term hunger. Food aid can also release government funds, that are then available for additional investment in the education sector.

335. In the health sector, WFP contributes to an improved food intake through either direct feeding of malnourished children and hospital patients or by providing a take-home food package to pregnant or lactating women and small children. The food aid serves as an incentive for attendance at health facilities which provide health treatment, and health and nutrition education.

336. WFP supports victims of AIDS in a number of African countries by providing an income transfer to the households of AIDS patients. This is an important addition to the identification and treatment programmes sponsored by other agencies as many AIDS-afflicted households have fewer sources of income.

337. From WFP's perspective, the task of development assistance is to enable the poor and hungry to acquire the means by which they themselves can improve the conditions of their lives and sustain those improvements. WFP's experience, accumulated over nearly three decades of operations, is that poverty and hunger are more likely to be overcome when the poor and hungry are viewed as a resource on which development can build.

338. WFP provides food resources amounting to an estimated $60 million in support of "community self-help" projects in Sub-Saharan Africa; further commitments are likely to be of the order of $15 million annually.

ILO

339. Training: ILO activities in the broad area of training and human resource development are designed primarily to increase opportunities for and access to gainful wage and self-employment. ILO training activities in Africa at present include about 100 technical assistance projects in some 40 countries. The common aim of these projects is to contribute substantially to human development by strengthening vocational and other specialized (i.e. rehabilitation and sectoral) training systems to address employment needs and manpower requirements at the national and local levels. Attention is also paid to the training needs of specific population groups, especially those particularly disadvantaged by physical and socio-economic circumstances (i.e.

the disabled, women, migrant workers, refugees, youth), and economic sectors (i.e. the informal sector).

340. In the 1992-1993 biennium, particular attention will be paid by the ILO to vocational training to enhancing national capacity for policy analysis in the wider context of human development strategies. This will be mainly in connection with the provision of assistance to African countries in the implementation of structural adjustment programmes and policy changes including the reorientation of training systems to new and changing needs. Particular emphasis will continue to be given to training for self-employment in the informal sectors in both the urban and rural economies. The expansion of the African regional network on vocational training will be pursued in order to support institutional development and the full integration of human development efforts in general socio-economic development strategies in African countries.

341. Other ILO training activities geared towards particular sectors and manpower needs of African countries are also relevant in the context of activities to support national efforts towards economic recovery. These include the Entrepreneurship and Management Development Programme which carries out training activities that, inter alia, support employment promotion through small enterprise development as an alternative to wage employment; the "Improve Your Business" (IYB) and "Assistance for Business Creation" programmes, by which sector-specific manuals and guidelines have been developed to assist in the training of owners and management personnel of small and medium-sized enterprises in several African countries; the Small Enterprise Development Programme which includes the implementation of nearly 100 national and local-level projects in Africa, many of which have significant training and institution-building components.

342. ILO technical assistance for the development of cooperatives and similar organisations at the grass-roots level in Africa also supports the development of human resources through the inclusion of education and training components designed to provide functional literacy and raise competence levels for better management and improved performance. The training provided within the framework of this ILO programme ranges from fellowships at specialized institutions to functional literacy campaigns and on-the-job training.

343. Training in the hotel and tourism sector has assumed increasing importance within the overall ILO technical programme for the African region, in view of the growth potential of the sector. The ILO has intensified its assistance to African countries to upgrade their hotel and tourism training facilities, especially in cases where structural adjustment has resulted in public sector retrenchments and high unemployment.

344. The ILO's Advanced Centre for Technical and Vocational Training in Turin, Italy, for many years has been instrumental in contributing to the development of human resources in all sectors of African economies.

345. Africa will continue to account for a major proportion of the Centre's training resources in the 1992-1993 biennium which give greater attention to development and strengthening of national capacity (through training) for project management. The predominance of structural adjustment programmes (SAP) in development strategies of African countries underscores proposals by the Centre to organize regional and subregional seminars in 1992-1993 on policy analysis concerning the employment and training implications of SAPs.

346. Elimination of child labour: the elimination of child labour is regarded by ILO as central to human development in so far as it improves access of children to education 1/ and other socio-economic opportunities as required for gainful employment in the future. Consequently, it has assigned a high priority to its newly launched "International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour" (IPEC), with special attention on the situation in Africa. The objective is to assist African countries to develop and implement appropriate policies aimed at dealing with child labour in specific sectors and activities, and ultimately contributing to the proper development and efficient use of human resources in the region.

347. ILO will also organize a regional seminar and a series of national seminars in 1992-1993 intended to sensitise governments and the public at large to the problem of child labour and the need for practical and concrete action.

348. Through its Workers' Education Programme, the ILO provides technical and financial assistance to trade unions in support of their full and effective participation in structural adjustment negotiations and collective bargaining. During the 1992-1993 biennium, greater emphasis will be given to institution-building, migrant workers' activities, occupational safety, health and environmental issues.

349. The main thrust of ILO's Employers' Activities Programme in Africa is on the promotion and strengthening of employers' organizations, including those representing small and indigenous entrepreneurs. In the 1992-1993 biennium emphasis will be on the establishment of effective horizontal employers' organizations within Africa as a means of diffusing decision-making to support political changes and emerging economic structures (i.e. privatization) in the region.

350. Participation of women in development is a major concern of ILO. ILO's programme for the 1992-1993 biennium includes an interdepartmental project on equality for women in employment, which covers Africa as well as the other regions of the world. The project will generate up-to-date data on, and also provide further insight into, some of the priority areas regarding women's employment. The outputs of this project will constitute part of the ILO's contribution to the Regional Preparatory Conference to be convened in Africa in 1994 as well as the United Nations World Conference on Women in 1995.

351. Participation of the rural poor in development is vital for promoting self-reliance and raising income levels among this particularly disadvantaged group. Assistance is therefore given by the ILO to the rural poor in several African countries in the form of leadership training for cadres of participatory and cooperative-type organizations, implementation of local-level self-help community projects, promoting of small-scale enterprises and income-generating activities, study tours for leaders of rural workers' organizations.

WHO

352. The objective of WHO and its Member States in Africa is the attainment of Health for All by the Year 2000 through primary health care (PHC). A major thrust of WHO's work with African countries during the decade of the 1990's will be to improve the implementation of PHC and its component programmes.

353. Within the context of implementing primary health care in order to strengthen health systems WHO plans to develop regional training capacity in health economics in Africa. Another important programme (supported by DANIDA) focuses on strengthening ministries of health to ensure that health resources are optimally used, and calls for reorganization and decentralization within ministries of health, increased intersectoral collaboration and community involvement and participation.

354. WHO will continue to support African countries in increasing the efficiency of hospitals and other health facilities; the management of logistic support, maintenance of equipment and planning of facilities; meeting the needs of the urban poor and city health systems; and strengthening the capability of district health systems.

355. WHO is in the process of preparing its Ninth General Programme of Work for the second half of the Decade, and will reflect in it the priority concerns for Africa articulated, inter alia, in the Abijan Declaration on the "Current African Health Crisis", the Addis Ababa Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development and the declaration on AIDS epidemic in Africa, 1992 (June).

356. WHO will continue to implement the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children by means of an integrated approach to priority programmes and activities which promote the health and nutrition of women and children.

357. In Africa, WHO will encourage health care workers to screen all children to ensure that all elements of health promotion and protection are being provided and used. It will also take steps to ensure that parents and other family members are provided with the health messages that can save millions of children's lives each year. The health services will also provide adequate nutrition.

358. WHO will seek to improve the situation of maternal and new-born health care in Africa by the provision of training that would increase the number of

trained personnel including traditional birth attendants and strengthening of health centres to perform moderately complicated deliveries. It will also assess the hazards and benefits of different traditional practices, encourage Governments to prevent the former and reinforce the latter. WHO will continue to advocate, promote and support integration of family planning as a major component of mother and child health programmes.

359. Adequate and appropriate nutrition is a major concern and is one of the priority thrusts of WHO's policies and programmes in Africa. In many African countries significant deficits exist in those factors which determine body mass and good health.

360. In response to this situation, WHO will help Governments to set up mechanisms for the identification of population groups or specific geographic areas within countries that have nutrition and related problems which cause them to maintain standards below the national or regional averages and trends. WHO will also mobilise countries in which iodine and vitamin A deficiency can immediately be brought under control.

361. WHO and FAO are jointly organizing the International Conference on Nutrition to be held in Rome in December 1992. The conference is expected to give new impetus to tackling malnutrition worldwide and particularly in the developing countries, especially Africa, and should be the basis for mobilization of the required resources.

362. With regards to breast-feeding, WHO will draw upon the political and social support generated by the "Baby Friendly Hospital" initiative, and extend that concept to the community level. This will include training of health workers, support of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes, collaboration with women's organizations and other social support mechanisms established in Africa.

363. In order to improve the standard of African immunisation to a state where it can reduce disease incidence, WHO will promote additional activities to ensure that mothers and children, while receiving immunization services, also receive other vital advice on maintaining and improving their health.

364. WHO, through its Diarrhoeal Disease and Acute Respiratory Infections Control Programmes is cooperating with Governments in all African countries to support and strengthen national efforts to reduce the impact of these diseases. These programmes are contributing to the development of basic primary health care services through their training activities and support to supervisory and drug distribution systems. Their extension to incorporate medical and nursing schools, private medical practitioners, pharmacists and drug sellers and community-based practitioners are being undertaken.

365. In the long-term the only solution to the problem of diarrhoeal disease is improved water supply and sanitation. WHO along with other international agencies will continue its activities in this area, through the Global Task Force on Cholera Control which serves as an advocate for priority being accorded to this aspect of development.

366. The AIDS pandemic has brought a grave and growing challenge to Africa. During the 1990s, the impact of the pandemic will be greatest in large urban areas of sub-Saharan Africa.

367. The economic and social impact on African development of this disease that kills people in their most productive years will be immense. WHO is working with 44 countries in the African region (AFRO).

368. Epidemics of communicable diseases, particularly malaria, as well as plague, meningococcal meningitis and yellow fever continue to destabilize national health systems in Africa and take their toll on human life and suffering. Tropical Africa is believed to account for 80 per cent of the clinical cases and 90 per cent of all the parasite carriers of malaria in the world. Particular attention is therefore being focused on training and the development of national programmes for malaria control. The international, technical and financial support for the management Ministerial Conference on Malaria (October 1992) will focus on control strategies and the mobilisation of resources to combat this disease. Control of communicable diseases will continue to receive high priority. Studies focus on new integrated programmes in order to limit the impact of these diseases in areas where they are endemic.

369. Another primary need in Africa is for its qualified health workers to be provided with proper employment and commensurate remuneration. WHO is currently working with 17 African countries to help them develop self-reliant national institutions for the production of educational and promotional materials in support to PHC. It plans to expand both training provided and the countries involved.

370. A priority area in WHO is to strengthen national capabilities in health communication and education of the public. Support is provided to integrate education for health into schools and for out-of-school children. Programmes are under way to involve youth organizations, trade unions, women's groups and cooperatives in health and development programmes. Training programmes on human relations, communications and community organisation skills have been developed for community health workers and their supervisors. Support is also provided in the production of educational and audiovisual materials for use by health and related workers in promoting healthy practices. These programmes will continue.

371. Other activities of concern to human development and for which WHO will further its efforts include the following: community water supply and sanitation (CWS); action programme on essential drugs (DAP); emergency relief, preparedness and response, in particular the Panafrican Epidemic Preparedness Project; special programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR); control and elimination of major zoonotic diseases; activities to tackle health problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse; mental health; occupational health.

UNIDO

372. One of the predominant areas emerging from requests received from African Governments and emphasized in the Programme for the Second IDDA is the development of human resources and technological capabilities for industrial development. UNIDO technical co-operation programmes in Africa in support of human resource development and building up technological and technical competence on the continent is receiving increasing priority. The broad objective of the human resource development activities of UNIDO is to build up coherent and sustainable systems for upgrading local technological skills and managerial and entrepreneurial capabilities and integrating them into the industrial development process.

373. Within the framework of the system-wide medium-term plan for women in industrial development 1990-1995, the primary objective of the UNIDO programme for the integration of women in industrial development is to assist in increasing the number and proportion of women engaged in industry and related activities. UNIDO's technical cooperation programme will therefore aim at fostering cooperation at the regional and subregional level for a more effective integration of women in the industrialization process; increasing the capabilities of women in industrial planning and programming; developing specific skills; developing and commercializing technologies and products which will assist in alleviating the heavy burden on women engaged in agriculture and food production; and introducing mechanisms for raw materials procurement, access to technology, credit facilities and markets.

374. The main areas of UNIDO's activities in 1992-1995 with regard to WID are: (a) a new project in sub-Saharan Africa which is being launched jointly with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) aimed to improve the incomes and ease the chores of women food-producers in two African countries, by designing appropriate technology to mechanize hulling and grinding of cereals; and (b) the training programme for women entrepreneurs in the field of food-processing technology. This programme aims at providing women simultaneously with the entrepreneurial awareness, management skills and technical knowledge necessary to run small scale enterprises in the food-processing sector. The training programme has already been introduced to three African countries.

375. The primary objective of the small- and medium-scale industries of UNIDO is twofold. The first is to stimulate the development of small business enterprises, particularly in rural areas, and secondly to develop relatively skill-intensive small- and medium-scale industries which can exploit export opportunities through measures such as subcontracting arrangements. The programme received high priority in the 1990-1991 biennium and will continue at the same level during the current biennium.

WIPO

376. The objective is to encourage the formation of a core of industrial property experts capable of helping the countries of Africa to use and maximize the benefits to be derived from the industrial property system. WIPO undertakes training activities at the introductory, advanced and specialized levels for the benefit of a wide range of officials from Africa in such subject-matters as the legal, administrative and technical aspects of the patent, trademark and industrial design systems; licensing and the transfer of technology; patent documentation, promotion of invention and innovation, patent classification, search examination and copyright. These activities have been undertaken in 1990 and 1991, and will be expanded in 1992.

(v) Strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and integration

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

377. The existence of potentials for economies of scale is a requisite for an effective economic and social transformation. Thus regional and subregional cooperation and integration will be the most single important contributor to recovery and development in Africa which is composed of a great number of small countries.

378. Africa has already developed a network of subregional groups with a focus on regional integration and cooperation. However, if African Governments fully endorsed the concept of collective self-reliance and established subregional economic groupings such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in 1975, the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) in 1981, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in 1983 and the Arab Maghreb Union in 1989, it is noteworthy that in practice, individual countries failed to translate the proclaimed collective strategies into national policy. Also, the subregional economic communities have in recent past preferred the global approach over the market approach as a strategy for economic development, using preferential trade area treaties, including protocols for transport, industry, agricultural development as mechanisms. In the framework of the implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Common Market, a mixed approach, combining the harmonization of industrial, agricultural, and investment policies with the development of trade links now seems relevant.

(b) Current and planned activities

ECA

379. ECA activities will focus on strengthening of the existing subregional communities; stabilization of fiscal regimes applied to intra-subregional trade; establishment of a free trade area at the level of each subregional economic grouping; coordination and harmonization of tariff and non-tariff

regions between the subregional economic groupings; and establishment of the African Economic Community itself.

380. Current work programme of ECA includes activities relating to studies on sectoral planning and subregional cooperative arrangements where the constraints and the potentialities in the field of cooperation in agriculture, industry, trade and transport.

381. ECA will concentrate on integrating the physical, institutional and social infrastuctures; production structures in key economic sectors; subregional and regional markets; and influencing the creation of an enabling environment for across-the-border initiatives and enterprises.

382. ECA will further focus on trade liberalisation and on the harmonisation of industrial, agricultural, and investment policies with the development of trade links.

383. Efforts will be made to involve socio-economic interest groups in the economic integration process, such as chambers of industry and commerce, the private sector, trade unions, professionals, youth and women's associations, industrialists, consulting firms, engineers' associations, etc. The private sector's potential role in subregional integration will be emphasised, with Governments providing the necessary enabling environment.

384. With the establishment of the African Economic Community, ECA will support countries in the adoption of long- and medium-term plans aimed at implementing phase I of the establishment of the African economic community by the year 2005. The efforts of the ECA multi-operational programming centres (MULPOCs) will be instrumental in this regard, and greater use will be made of the ECA-sponsored institutions, which cover many substantive areas, including natural resources development, science and technology, economic and development planning.

UNCTAD

385. UNCTAD has been rendering support to the established economic groupings including the Mano River Union (MRU), PTA and the Union Douanière des Etats d'Afrique centrale (UDEAC), ECOWAS and ECCAS and will provide additional support in response to the United Nations New Agenda. This additional support will centre on activities geared to translating the broad cooperation and integration objectives of regional and subregional groupings into practical programmes and projects, through, among other things, the strengthening of national capacities to implement decisions taken at the regional level; increasing the involvement of the business community in the integration process; and the strengthening of trade and monetary and financial cooperation. As part of this process, UNCTAD will continue its substantive and technical assistance support for OAU and ECA, in the steps necessary for the establishment of the African Economic Community.

386. The main areas of focus will include the following: (a) transformation of regional and subregional integration groupings into common markets; (b) enterprise cooperation which will involve support to the development of coordinated investment laws and regulation which are conducive to investment, and support to the promotion of African entrepreneurship and small and medium-scale enterprises; (c) monetary and financial coperation which would involve support to the revitalisation or existing clearing arrangements, support to the establishment of national and subregional trade financing mechanisms and support to the mobilisation of domestic resources and development of capital markets; and (d) economic relationships in Southern Africa in a post-apartheid era.

UNDP

387. UNDP has been implementing the African Capacity Building Initiative (ACBI) in order to strengthen regional and subregional institutions and capacity. On a continuous basis UNDP is involved in the preparation of studies, proposals and the support of efforts to revitalise and harmonise intergovernmental organizations in the promotion of ongoing subregional and regional enterprises, as well as strengthening administrative and management structure for the establishment of the African Economic Community.

UNFPA

388. Under the intercountry programme for sub-Saharan Africa (1992-1995), UNFPA will continue to promote regional and subregional cooperation in the field of population through support to regional training and research programmes in demography at the "Institut de Formation et de Recherches Demographiques (IFORD) and "Regional Institute for Population Studies" (RIPS); in population and development at the "African Institute for Economic Development and Planning" (IDEP); and in clinical family planning and IEC skills at the Mauritius and Tunisia Training Centers. A new training programme for Anglophone Sub-Saharan Africa in Family Planning Strategy Development and IEC has been launched and a similar one is being planning for Francophone Sub-Saharan Africa.

389. UNFPA will also continue its support to strengthen the population programming capacities at regional institutions such as the Department of Population studies at UDEAC (the Central African Customs Union; the "Centre for Population and Development Studies and Research" (CERPOD); OAU; ECA and the African Development Bank.

390. Through support to the OAD, UNFPA will continue to sensitise and mobilise African Governments to formulate national population and development policies and design appropriate implementation strategies. The population programme of OAU will be strengthened and the first meeting of the OAU Population Commission will be convened. UNFPA will work closely with and support ECA and its advisory personnel in carrying out selected studies under the ECA work programme, particularly in the area of data collection, including surveys and censuses. UNFPA and the Africa Development Bank intend to collaborate closely

in implementing selected population and development activities within Africa. With the World Bank, UNFPA is also providing support for the Agenda for Action to Improve the Implementation of Population Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa.

391. A new major initiative includes support for regional multidisciplinary teams which will provide technical backstopping for population programmes in Africa. The teams will be composed of advisers with expertise in the broad spectrum of population issues. Three teams will provide services to sub-Saharan countries and one team will provide services to North African as well as other Arab and European countries.

UNIFEM

392. UNIFEM is providing resources to strengthen the capacity of the OAU secretariat on incorporating gender concerns in the OAU policies and programmes. UNIFEM has also embarked on important activities to support SADCC, PTA and ECOWAS in increasing gender awareness in their overall programmes and policies. With the establishment of the African Economic Community UNIFEM will seek greater collaboration with ECA and its subregional programmes and OAU subregional groupings for increased regional cooperation.

ILO

393. In the area of regional and subregional cooperation and integration ILO's activities include the provision of technical support to the Southern African Labour Commission (SALC) for which ILO-SATEP (Southern Africa Training and Employment Programme) is the technical secretariat and the OAU Labour Commission which benefits from regular technical advisory services provided by the Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa (JASPA), which also has a role in establishing a regional network of employment, manpower planning research and similar institutions. The ILO in collaboration with UNDP and the World Bank is implementing the regional UNEDIL project aimed at strengthening management training institutions in Africa.

World Bank

394. Regional economic integration is an area of intensive study by the World Bank. The Bank has pledged its commitment to support the African Economic Community, as well as other initiatives for regional economic integration.

395. The Bank's Economic and Finance Division (AFTEF) is, inter alia, analysing the implementation of trade reforms adopted by countries in the region with the aim of improving the design and sequencing of trade reform measures, especially in the context of regional economic integration.

WFP

396. All WFP-assisted projects are national projects - WFP does not undertake regional-level projects. However, through its encouragement of regional purchases, triangular transactions and exchange arrangements WFP plays a

significant role in encouraging South-South trade. In 1991 WFP spent $60 million to purchase 232,000 tons of food in sub-Saharan Africa. Such purchases help to promote interregional trade over the long term.

WIPO

397. WIPO is cooperating with African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) and African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) to strengthen their capacity to meet the needs of their member countries in several areas including, inter alia, strengthening of databases, provision of technical equipment, holding of users' meetings in selected industrialized countries in order to encourage more industrial property applications, training, promotion of inventive and innovative activities, promotion of accession to basic instruments of respective organizations. WIPO will also pursue its cooperation with the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), particularly within the framework of the quadripartite cooperation agreement between WIPO, OAPI, ARIPO and the ARCT.

398. In the field of copyright, emphasis is laid on the creation or improvement of legislation, the creation or strengthening of institutions for the administration of effective implementation of legislation (collective authors' societies).

(vi) Specific programmes

399. There are a number of other substantive issues which do not fall fully under the above five sub-sectors, and are discussed here. They include issues related to (1) the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA-II), (2) the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and (3) the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s and (4) Humanitarian assistance and emergency relief.

1. The Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA-II)

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

400. The development objective of the programme for the second IDDA is to contribute to the achievement of self-reliance and self-sustainment on the African continent. Within that context, the programme aims at: using the instrument of industrialization as a means of attaining self-reliance and self-sustainment; reducing the traditional dependency on forces outside the continent; promoting internal engines of growth; stimulating and increasing the use of domestic factor inputs; promoting the establishment in Africa of core and strategic industries; developing critical national capabilities - human, institutional and infrastructural - for project design and execution, negotiation and mobilization of financial resources, entrepreneurship and business management; enhancing the creation of an enabling environment that

fosters private sector investment and entrepreneurial initiative; and promoting regional and subregional cooperation as a practical means of enlarging markets, establishing multinational core projects and strengthening the interdependent physical and institutional infrastructure.

(b) Current and planned activities

UNIDO

401. The UNIDO implementation programme for the second IDDA, for the biennium 1992-1993, aims at promoting sustainable industrialization in the region. It seeks to enhance the countries' ability to optimize the utilization of domestic and external technical and financial resources required to implement industrial strategies, policy reforms and operational programmes in order to: (i) remove structural deficiencies impeding the transformation of the industrial sector in Africa; and (ii) create the necessary conditions for sustainable self-reliant industrialization, including establishing a positive investment climate for the mobilization of financial and human resources, as well as developing management skills and local entrepreneurship, encouraging research and development activities and strengthening institutional support and capacity.

402. The medium-term plan of UNIDO also emphasizes the need to design a special regional programme within the framework of the second IDDA that meets the requirements of Africa. The programme also places special focus on the five priority problem areas identified in the medium-term plan: human resource development; development and transfer of technology; small- and medium-scale industry development; industrial rehabilitation; and environment and energy. In addition, major emphasis is placed on mobilization of financial and technical resources for industrial development as an element common to the above-mentioned areas. Since 29 of the 51 African countries are classified as least developed countries, all aspects of the programme will benefit those countries.

403. UNIDO had also fostered investment promotion endeavours in Africa. During 1990, 542 investment projects were successfully concluded in Africa with a total value of US$ 138 million, and technical cooperation projects related specifically to industrial investment valued at US$ 0.6 million were implemented. In 1989, a total of US$ 140.3 million of industrial investment projects were successfully concluded.

404. The technical assistance to be delivered by UNIDO to Africa for the 1992-1993 biennium for the implementation of the programme for the second IDDA amounted to US$ 8.6 million. The technical cooperation activities component of the programme ($3.85 million) will focus on the priorities indicated by countries and subregions in the programmes they have drawn up for the second Decade. Special emphasis will be placed on intercountry projects and national projects with potential for subregional or multinational cooperation. Priority will be accorded to agro-industries, agro-industrial linkages, agro-related industries (agricultural machinery, fertilizer, pesticides);

small-scale industries and entrepreneurship development; promotion of the participation of the private sector in industrial development; human resource development for industrialization; technological development; industrial policies and strategies; integration of women in industrial development; energy and environment.

ECA

405. ECA will work closely with UNIDO in the implementation of the IDDA II at all three levels of the programme namely, the national, subregional and regional components.

406. The broad objectives defined in the national programme component of the IDDA II include the rehabilitation of existing industries, creation of self-sufficiency in basic consumer goods, restructuring the industrial sector, harnessing indigenous scientific capability and adaptation of imported technology, and establishing new industries based on transformation of local raw materials. ECA along with UNIDO is assisting African member States in elaborating and implementing their programmes.

407. The subregional components of the IDDA II programme comprise four subregions, namely central Africa, eastern and southern Africa, north Africa and west Africa. These programmes cover major industrial projects in metallurgical industries, engineering industries, chemical industries, agro- and agro-related industries, building material industries and a number of industrial support projects. The objective is to achieve complementarity with respect to raw materials, technology, human resources, competitiveness and markets. ECA will be undertaking studies in support of this objective.

408. ECA's objective is to build self-reliance through the production of competitive goods and services for the regional market using domestic resources, and through the development of indigenous industrial, entrepreneurial and managerial capabilities. A selected number of regional core projects constitute the regional component to be implemented during the decade.

UNDP

409. UNDP support to the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa will be mainly in the form of promoting institutions that will develop and advance Africa's industrial capacity.

2. The Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

410. It is well established that a reliable, well-structured transport and telecommunications network is one of the prerequisites for a harmonious development of a modern economy. High quality of transport and telecommunication services is also an element which would contribute to enhance efficiency in the productive sectors. African countries give due consideration to the development of transport and telecommunications in the process of economic development and integration. There is thus a need for the international community to support African countries in their efforts to establish integrated transport and transport and communications system as a means of laying the foundation of effective cooperation between African countries and favouring their economic development.

(b) Current and planned activities

ECA

411. ECA's objectives under the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade Programme for Africa (UNTACDA II) are (i) the implementation of a phased programme of development and management of transport and communications infrastructure, taking particularly into account the needs and requirements of island and landlocked countries; (ii) rehabilitation, upgrading and maintenance of the most critical elements of the existing infrastructure and equipment; (iii) improvement of human resources planning, development and utilization; (iv) improvement of operational efficiency, service quality and availability in transport and communications with an emphasis on competitiveness, productivity and profitability; (v) establishment of information systems on transport and communications for better planning and management of investments; (vi) development of local manufacturing capabilities to cope with the rapid changes in technology and conditions in the transport and communications market, and to reduce costs and requirements for foreign exchange; (vii) improvement of transport safety and security, and strengthening of transport-related environmental protection measures; (viii) improvement of transport and communications in rural areas; (ix) improvement of urban transport; and (x) establishment and strengthening of interregional liaisons in the field of transport and communications.

412. The Inter-agency Coordinating Committee (IAAC) which consists of all relevant United Nations agencies and African intergovernmental organisations involved in the fields of transport and communications in Africa, shall monitor and carry out periodic evaluation of the programme and make recommendations to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

413. The implementation of the UNTACDA II programme will be monitored at the national, subregional, and regional levels. There will be three evaluations for the programme in 1994, 1997 and 2000.

World Bank

414. The goal of the Bank's programmes in transport is to improve efficiency and quality of service in the African region. To achieve this goal the Bank relies on institutional and regulatory reforms to improve the functioning of transport markets, strengthening commercial orientation, management autonomy and accountability of transport parastatals; private sector involvement both for the provision of services and for the maintenance and operation of equipment and facilities; systematic build-up of maintenance capabilities; transport facilitation; rehabilitation of road networks; reform of fiscal and financial arrangements; and application of sound environmental management practices.

415. The Bank-managed Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Policy Programme (SSATP) will continue to provide the framework for region-wide policy development and implementation and for consensus-building. The programme will develop guidance to address with facilitation issues and will enhance the conceptual framework to deal with fiscal and public finance issues. The SSATP will also provide a vehicle for collaborating with ECA on transport data and on the organization of a biannual transport policy forum for policy makers, donors and regional sector agencies.

UNDP

416. UNDP will support the Second Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (UNTACDA II) and as well as the intergovernmental organizations responsible for its implementation.

ITU

417. ITU's actions to support the efforts already undertaken will be directed mostly on the following issues: namely, policy, strategy and management; improvement of networks and services; and human resources development. ITU has been and will continue to advise Governments of the region in the following aspects of telecommunications policy; in establishing information systems, and analytical accounting, the training of managers and the introduction of planning tools.

418. In the national context, ITU will advise and assist in implementing:

(i) the separation of the postal and telecommunications management functions;

(ii) the merging of the international and national telecommunication services of operating entities;

(iii) the formulation of a consultative mechanism that allows the involvement of users and other parties concerned in the reform of the sector;

(iv) the establishment of a planning unit responsible for the preparation of a Master Plan for the Development of Telecommunications;

(v) the improvement of the African Telecommunications Network;

(vi) the development of rural telecommunications within the framework of the Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM); and

(vii) the ensurance of the length of the PANAFTEL links and their sufficient availability by enhancing coordination measures between several countries concerned by the same routes in order to achieve a satisfactory quality level for customers.

419. ITU will also assist Governments to create national high-level multisectoral information and telecommunication policy coordination mechanism, to continuously monitor and review the effective development of the sector to support the socio-economic goals of the country.

420. The ITU, in association with UNIDO, is prepared to assist African countries to develop strategies for subregional cooperation in research and development, and the manufacture of telecommunication equipment.

3. The Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

421. The state of statistics in Africa has, over the past two decades, been of considerable concern. Some of the deficiencies that have been identified include: poor management of National Statistical Services (NSSs), inadequate funding, lack of timeliness in delivering statistical data, unsatisfactory quality of data produced and inability to respond quickly to new data needs.

422. The achievement of African national self-sufficiency in the production of reliable, relevant and timely data by the end of the century is the ultimate objective of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s. The Plan is based on the following three cardinal principles:

(i) the central role of an improved statistical system in economic and social development;

(ii) the key role of ECA in the development and promotion of statistics in Africa without prejudice to the important role of other agencies and donors;

(iii) the need for coordinating the support provided by international agencies and donors.

(b) Current and planned activities

423. During the 1980s, a significant amount of technical and financial assistance has been made available by both multilateral and bilateral agencies in the field of statistics in Africa. Such activities related mainly to projects and programmes implemented by the United Nations system and especially by the United Nations Department for Technical Cooperation for Development (UNDTCD), ECA, World Bank, UNFPA, ILO, UNICEF and UNDP.

424. Past and ongoing activities put emphasis on: implementing the African Census Programme (ACP); the collection and analysis of fertility data in Africa in the framework of the World Fertility Survey (WFS); the African Household Survey Programme (AHSP); the African component of the World Demographic and Health Survey (DHS); the National Accounts Capability Programme (NACP); the Living Standard Measurement Study (LSMS); the statistical aspects of the Social Dimension of Adjustment (SDA); the Pan-Arab Project for Child Development and the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and the Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA). Despite these efforts, emerging problems include the non-sustainability of external support including actions by the United Nations system, the ineffective coordination of these actions and the resource constraints, both internal and external.

425. The World Bank is currently collaborating with the ECA and other agencies on the STATCAP project. This will help to build statistical collection and use capacities at the national level and strengthen the capacities of regional institutions to support countries undertaking statistical improvement action programmes.

426. Under the overall responsibility of ECA and with the contribution of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies, the proposed strategy for the implementation of the Plan outlines planned activities at the national, subregional, regional and global levels to revitalise African statistical development, and suggests ways of implementing its various elements.

427. At the national level the United Nations system will lead in assisting African countries in needs assessment and strategy development; the mobilization of financial resources and possible establishment of a special statistical development fund; and the monitoring of the progress towards the achievement of the goals of the strategy. At the subregional and regional levels, technical support will be provided to the respective intergovernmental organizations for the development and implementation of regional/subregional statistical programme(s). At a global level, ECA will periodically report on the implementation of the strategy to the United Nations Statistical Commission, the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities, and to some extent also to the United Nations Population Commission, using the inputs of the agencies/organizations involved in the implementation of the Plan of Action.

4. Humanitarian assistance and emergency relief

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

428. While the focus of the system-wide plan is on efforts to assist Africa in achieving sustained and sustainable growth and development in the 1990s and beyond, the unfortunate reality is that there will be a continuing requirement for humanitarian assistance and emergency relief in response to natural and man-made disasters throughout this period. These situations not only threaten the lives of millions of peoples but also endanger prospects for economic and social progress.

429. The United Nations system has a crucial and growing role in the area of humanitarian assistance and emergency relief, both through its operational agencies and as a catalyst for other important efforts by Governments, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations. There are three interrelated components to a plan of action in this regard:

- to ensure a timely, effective and coordinated response to emergency situations;

- to promote a continuum of action covering early warning, prevention and preparedness, emergency response, and the transition from relief to reconstruction, rehabilitation, and development;

- to address the root causes of emergencies.

(b) Current and planned activities

United Nations

430. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) and the function of Emergency Relief Coordinator, established in response to General Assembly resolution 46/182, is entrusted with overall responsibility for the coordination of humanitarian assistance and emergency relief programmes. The specific functions of DHA include advising the Secretary-General on emergency and recommending appropriate actions; providing a framework for cooperative efforts by the international community; facilitating and coordinating the efforts of the United Nations entities engaged in humanitarian work in the field; addressing the diplomatic dimensions of delivery of humanitarian assistance; serving as focal point for information and action on emergencies including the issuance of consolidated appeals, the organization of donor meetings and the collating of information on the response of donors; and, developing effective tools for dealing with humanitarian emergencies. Operational modalities will be tailored to the particular demands of each situation.

431. DHA also is responsible for the management of the Consolidated Emergenc. Revolving Fund designed to permit a more expeditious response to new emergencies. To facilitate coordination, an Inter-Agency Standing Committee

has been established in Geneva. Close working relations have been established with regional and subregional organizations, the ICRC, and non-governmental organizations.

432. DHA will continue to ensure timely and effective response to natural disasters. It is expected that the Department will also continue to be faced with increasing demands to address protracted and complex emergency situations. While it is not possible to predict in advance specific requirements in this regard, situations currently requiring attention include the Horn of Africa (Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia, including Eritrea), the drought in southern Africa (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), and Liberia.

433. The range of activities involved in these programmes includes the mounting of assessment missions, the preparation of consolidated inter-agency appeals, monitoring of the implementation of emergency programmes, regular consultations with donors and non-governmental organizations, the preparation of reports to United Nations intergovernmental bodies as well as diplomatic intervention when required.

434. In addition to country and region-specific activities, DHA will be involved in a range of functional tasks and policy issues, to include displaced persons, mine clearance programmes, relief and development, disaster management training, rapid response mechanisms and early warning systems. The International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction will also continue to be a major activity of the Department.

435. It should be emphasized that the role of the Department is to serve as coordinator and catalyst of action. The various entities of the United Nations system retain their sectoral responsibilities in contributing to this cooperative effort.

B. ACTIONS TO ASSIST IN THE CREATION OF A MORE SUPPORTIVE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE REMOVAL OF EXTERNAL CONSTRAINTS

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

436. Despite international efforts to improve the external environment for African development, a number of external factors continue to hamper growth in the region. Large external debts, declining exports earnings as a result of a slump in commodity prices on world markets and increased protectionism against African products and worsening of terms of trade, have combined to lead to serious resource constraints and balance-of-payments problems for many countries. These external factors added to domestic structural and policy deficiencies have contributed to the decline in economic growth.

437. In view of the above, priority attention needs to be given to providing a lasting solution to Africa's bilateral and multilateral debt problems; improving the primary commodity sectors of African economies including diversification and access to markets; and enhancing the resource flows to Africa.

438. Debt has been a major impediment to Africa's economic recovery and development. While the extent to which debt burden constrains development varies among countries, throughout the 1980s, on average, debt servicing represented 30 per cent of exports earnings, thus leaving very little room for essential imports of capital and consumer goods by heavily indebted countries. The low-income countries face a particularly difficult situation. A major priority should be to contribute to alleviating Africa's debt burden. The many measures taken so far have not resolved Africa's external debt crisis, and need to be substantially strengthened and expanded.

439. Because of their inability to service their debt and the resulting accumulated arrears, the volume of financial flows has increased only slightly, while debt servicing has remained relatively high. Efforts are therefore required to maintain and improve the credit-worthiness of African countries. In this regard, comprehensive and far-reaching recommendations are contained in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and the United Nations system should contribute to and facilitate the adoption of these measures by donor countries and multinational institutions.

440. In spite of efforts by African countries in expanding their export base, both vertically and horizontally, most of them remain dependent on a few primary commodities. The demand for these commodities has remained depressed as a result of competition from other developing regions and other substitute products as well as the world recession and their prices have shown a secular decline. As stated in both UNPAAERD and UN-NADAF, the priorities related to Africa's commodities problems remain the improvement and extension of the existing compensatory financing schemes, the removal of trade barriers and the diversification of African economies.

441. While, according to data published by OECD, there has been a nominal increase in the external resource flows since 1987, direct private investment and loans have been consistently contracting in the 1980s decreasing from US$ 4.8 billion in 1982 to only US$ 0.4 billion in 1988. These trends have accelerated since 1989 with the opening up of new investment opportunities in Eastern Europe which also threatens to divert bilateral and multilateral flows from Africa. It is therefore essential for the international community to live up to its commitments as contained in paragraph 29 of the UN-NADAF, namely devoting 0.7 per cent of GDP to official development assistance (ODA) and achieving the targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

(b) Current and planned activities

ECA

442. In seeking to create a more supportive external environment and the removal of external constraints, ECA will foster new approaches to Africa's debt crisis, with a view to achieving a reduction of debt to the point where Africa can honour its obligations and significant new lending can take place. ECA will work in this direction particularly by: identifying innovative approaches to international financing of debt in Africa and elsewhere, making those experiences known and proposing solutions based on them; devising solutions to the problem of capital flight, and measures to attract this money back for investment; cooperating with appropriate organizations in the preparation of official debt cancellation plans for African least developed countries; cooperating with the African Development Bank in devising solutions for lightening the burden of commercial debt for low- and middle-income African countries; and drawing attention to situations where the major creditors of Africa are becoming net recipients of African finances, with a view to achieving a better balance in the flow of resources.

443. ECA will also pursue activities in the promotion of monetary and financial cooperation at the subregional and regional levels, as a means of enhancing better management of resources, especially the external debt; in strengthening the existing institutional machinery for cooperation on development financing and investment; and in the establishment of subregional and regional monetary and financial institutions, in particular, the African Monetary Fund and the African Payments Union.

444. During the period 1992-1997, the ECA Secretariat will focus on activities to promote measures for reversing the downward trends in resource inflows, especially those made on concessional terms. Solutions will be sought to deal with the mounting external debt of the African countries and the causes of inadequate financing, such as low domestic savings. Through workshops, studies and analyses of developments and trends, measures will be devised for: assessing the impact of external developments on the African economies, particularly the new monetary arrangements within the European Monetary System; strengthening of existing institutions for regional monetary and financial cooperation and putting into place of an African Monetary Fund; and fostering increased self-reliance in financing development through programmes for domestic savings and resources mobilisation.

UNFPA

445. Through its extrabudgetary resources programme which strives to elicit additional financial assistance for African population programmes and through support to various projects such as the African Agenda for Action and the Social Dimensions of Structural Adjustment, both of which are implemented with the World Bank, UNFPA is taking action to assist in creating an external environment which would be more supportive of increased resource flows for African development efforts.

UNCTAD

446. UNCTAD, within its mandate, will continue to follow up the implementation of the Programmes on Africa, keeping in mind the need for favourable interaction between the external environment and the efforts of African countries. It will specifically focus on the following areas:

447. Concerning commodities, in view of the effects on commodity-dependent African countries of fluctuations in commodity markets and of the desirability for African States to achieve more stable and predictable conditions in commodity trade, and taking fully into account prevailing market trends, UNCTAD will continue its work on means for improving the conditions for trade in commodities, including assistance to African countries in: analysis of long-term supply and demand trends, greater market transparency, increasing their capacity to process, market and distribute commodities, and exploring modalities for greater cooperation among producers with a view to rationalizing investments in the commodity sector.

448. In the area of trade and access to markets, UNCTAD will continue with the examination of the rules, principles, policies and practices applied in international trade relations; restrictions to trade (removal of trade barriers - both tariff and non-tariff barriers); reviews of trends in production and trade in agriculture, manufactures and services; examination of the principal features of industrial collaboration arrangements, including joint ventures in and for trade; and implementation and improvement of the generalized system of preferences and of special and differential treatment for developing countries.

449. Regarding resource flows and debt, UNCTAD's contribution will include analysis and reports on trends, quantum, quality and modality of external assistance and cooperation, focusing on financial flows to Africa and debt and economic recovery. In addition to work on debt rescheduling, interest rate reductions and debt cancellation, efforts will be intensified in the search for solutions to Africa's external debt crisis within a framework of recovery and growth, including improved export performance and improved terms of trade. This will be carried out in the context of the targeted 6 per cent per annum average rate of growth of real GNP in the continent - deemed the minimum necessary to achieve sustained and sustainable economic growth and equitable development, increase income and eradicate poverty.

UNDP

450. UNDP will provide advisory services and support to national debt mechanisms and assist in the preparation of innovative debt for nature swaps. It will also provide support to projects that seek to improve access to markets, internal, regional and international. These activities encompass developing rural feeder road networks to improve access to local markets; the implementation of the African Management Services Company (AMSCO) Programme which offers viable African enterprises access to expertise and foreign markets, by mobilising international private sector; and the implementation of

the Foreign Investment Advisory Services (FIAS) which offers viable African enterprises access to expertise and foreign markets by mobilizing international private sector.

451. The UNDP also seeks to enhance resource flows to Africa in a number of ways. These include: the strengthening of national capacities for managing AID coordination mechanism through National Technical Cooperation Assessment Programmes (NATCAPs); Revitalizing Round Table process for aid coordination including the preparation of a policy paper to be discussed with Ministers of Planning, the preparation of technical cooperation papers for Consultative Group meetings; and the mobilization of donor support for supplementary financing for African initiatives.

452. Through Round Table meetings organized for LDCs, UNDP assists the African countries on policy formulation and organization of donor meetings to support meetings to support the development agenda of the countries. UNDP also finances research and programmes of the ECA and other regional organizations on the constraints and alternative development strategies for Africa.

World Bank

453. The change in thinking on economic reform within the African region has, in turn, greatly facilitated the Bank's aid mobilization and coordination efforts. Indeed, the emerging consensus between the donor community and Africa towards economic policy reform in Africa has had a tremendous effect on the Bank's work. While the Bank may be the single largest source of finance to sub-Saharan Africa, the role of other donors is essential, and partnership is required for a coordinated, concerted effort and strategy in the region. To this end, the Bank has intensified its work with the African regional institutions, particularly the African Development Bank (ADB).

454. Special Programme of Assistance (SPA): This has accounted for the bulk of additional resources flowing to sub-Saharan Africa in the UNPAAERD period. The principal purposes of the SPA are to ensure that the economic reform programmes of the poorest African countries are adequately financed through a combination of additional aid and debt relief, and to provide a framework for the coordination of donor efforts. As indicated earlier, the Bank disburses funds for concessional aid and debt relief measures through the SPA. For details, please refer to paragraph 76 above.

455. Through the SPA, the Bank provides a cogent analysis of two of the most pressing issues facing Africa today - debt and adjustment. Moreover, the Bank mobilizes the donor community to address these issues as reflected in the menu of debt relief options endorsed by the Toronto Summit in 1988 - and now being implemented under the aegis of the Paris Club. The SPA has also been very important for the donors. Through the SPA, the donors also receive information on the economic situation in African countries and about what other donors are doing thus enabling them to see their contributions in a broader perspective; and to explain and define them more forcefully before parliaments and other groups. It was decided recently that the SPA programme

should be extended. Also, new initiatives are being launched in the areas of technical assistance for debt management and for commodity risk management.

456. Complementing official flows, private investment is also crucial. All too little private investment is going to Africa at present. If the region is to achieve the growth required for poverty reduction, private investment must rise substantially. The main objective of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Bank's affiliate which focuses on private sector development, is to help enterprises and entrepreneurs respond to the reforms undertaken by many countries in the region. The IFC is also helping to strengthen the region's financial systems so that they can better mobilize savings and allocate them to productive uses. The IFC also serves to encourage and support a revival of foreign investment and it intends to expand its programme of assistance to small- and medium-scale businesses. During 1989-1990, more than 70 per cent of the IFC's gross investments in the region were aimed at small- and medium-size enterprises. Presently, the Africa Enterprise Fund has become fully operational, and plans for the expansion of the Africa Project Development Facility, which has been a considerable success in its four years of operation, have also been approved.

457. The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) has made a fast start in Africa. About 30 African countries have now signed the MIGA convention, and MIGA held its first investment promotion conference in Ghana in 1990. As MIGA's operations evolve and expand, Africa will remain an important priority.

IMF

458. An important aspect of the active involvement of the Fund in mobilising additional resources is the catalytic role of its facilities (including the SAF and the ESAF) in the context of multilateral conferences on aid coordination and the debt rescheduling under the auspices of the Paris and London Clubs. In this connection, in addition to the role of the stand-by and extended arrangements, the catalytic role of SAF and ESAF resources has been bolstered by the decision of the Paris Club creditors to link rescheduling, on a case-by-case basis, to SAF and ESAF arrangements.

459. In May 1989, the Fund adopted broad guidelines in connection with the provision of financial support for debt and debt-service reduction. A certain proportion of Fund resources committed under a stand-by or extended arrangement will be set aside to reduce the stock of debt through buy-backs or exchanges. The percentage will be determined on a case-by-case basis but would normally be about 25 per cent of the amount of the Fund arrangement. In addition, in certain cases there is a provision for augmentation of arrangements by up to 40 per cent of quota to provide collateral to support debt-service reduction. In determining support of debt-reduction operations, the Fund makes particular reference to three elements: the strength of economic policies; the scope for voluntary, market-based debt-reduction operations that would help the country regain access to credit markets and attain external viability with growth; and an assessment that such operations represent an efficient use of scarce resources.

FAO

460. FAO plans to continue its support to the establishment of a more favourable external trade environment, inter alia, via the activities of its Intergovernmental Groups (IGGs) which will continue to monitor international trade developments and pursue appropriate policies on a wide range of commodities of both export and import interest to the region. Analysis of the links between environmental problems, sustainable agricultural development and agricultural commodity markets, many of particular interest to Africa, will also be undertaken. Close attention will be paid by the Intergovernmental Groups to developments stemming from the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

461. Following their designation as International Commodity Bodies by the Common Fund for Commodities, several of the IGGs will be sponsoring projects of considerable interest to commodities exported from the Africa region for financing under the Second Account of the Fund. These projects aim, inter alia, at raising the acceptability of commodities shipped from Africa and thus at promoting the expansion of exports.

462. FAO will continue to support economic cooperation among developing countries (ECDC) in agricultural trade. For example, a workshop will examine the consequences for developing countries in Africa of the changes in agricultural policies of international significance stemming from the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, as well as other key policy developments such as the evolution of the European Single Market changes in Eastern Europe. Interested African countries will continue to receive assistance in the formulation of national commodity policies and programmes.

ILO

463. Increased concern by African member States about the negative effects of certain structural adjustment measures on employment and other social objectives underlines the active interest of the ILO in matters such as external debt problems balance-of-payments difficulties linked to commodity problems, access to markets and Capital, which seemingly fall outside its basic mandate but nevertheless represent external constraints on growth of output and employment in many developing countries. To this end, the ILO will continue to interact with IMF and the World Bank, and other multilateral lending agencies, with a view to influencing lending policies and programmes in favour of employment protection especially in the context of structural adjustment programmes. Also through its multibilateral programme involving major donors in the industrialized world, the ILO will continue to develop meaningful cooperation arrangements with these donors which benefit recipient African member States in terms of the focus and impact of some ILO-executed projects - i.e. projects which reflect greater awareness of social concerns and the human aspects of development.

UNIDO

464. UNIDO's technical cooperation activities take fully into account the need to alleviate the debt burden of the developing countries, especially with regard to pre-investment activities, contract negotiations and financing of industrial projects. In particular, UNIDO is involved in assessing the effects of the external debt and the external debt servicing on the industrial development of the developing countries, carrying out activities related to the mobilization of financial resources for industrial development and identifying new schemes for the financing of industry in developing countries. The innovations identified involve either market-oriented resource mobilization and allocation, or market-oriented debt conversion/alleviation, and are all important in providing financial resources for investment in the industrial sector in Africa.

465. UNIDO has identified venture capital funds, leasing, franchises, unit trusts and debt-equity swaps as financial arrangements that could play a major innovative role in the financing of industrial undertakings of African countries, and where UNIDO has or could have some inputs in the area of venture capital goods and companies UNIDO will continue to provide expertise in the form of information and advice, in production management and other specialized management areas such as market design, product adaptation, etc. UNIDO envisages to support venture capital operations by the use of methodologies such as the UNIDO Computer Model for Feasibility Analysis and Reporting (COMFAR) and Project Profile Screening and Pre-appraisal Information System (PROPSPIN). Any UNIDO activity in this area would be limited, however, to countries with a domestic stock market since venture capital activities are usually limited to those countries.

466. In the area of industrial leasing, UNIDO has experience in closely related areas such as the provision of technical assistance (including legislative and regulatory frameworks) for industrial estates, free trade zones, industrial investment incentives and investment laws and regulations which will enable it to respond positively to requests for assistance in this area.

467. UNIDO is considering the possibility of undertaking an in-depth study on franchises or build-operate-transfer (BOT) financed projects, setting out the actual practices and analysing problems encountered by developing countries. UNIDO could also establish a database covering the overall parameters of actual BOT deals: type of project, overall cost, proportion and domestic and foreign financing, location and addresses of focal institutions in various countries. On the basis of this information, UNIDO could bring requesting countries in contact with counterparts in other developing countries which might themselves supply information (details, negotiations strategies, etc.) not considered to be sensitive or proprietary. UNIDO could also organize expert meetings of interested countries for further elucidation concerning this interesting new financing instrument.

468. International unit trusts have become increasingly important as a source of external equity investment - including investment in industrial enterprises - in the domestic markets of some developing countries. UNIDO's activities in this area could include the promotion of information exchange on the subject by organizing expert meetings of finance managers from major industrial firms in African countries.

469. Debt-equity swaps, and more generally debt conversion, has become a very important source of funding for industrial investment in developing countries. The use of the debt conversion process could be considered for the financing of technical assistance from the Industrial Development Fund.

470. UNIDO's programmes geared towards improving access to regional and international markets are related to the areas of quality control, standardization and metrology, and the establishment of export processing zones in the region.

471. UNIDO will continue to assist in establishing national systems and institutions by way of major projects as it was already done in four countries.

472. In response to an increased number of African countries requesting advisory services on the establishment of Export Processing Zones (EPZs), UNIDO will continue to consolidate its activities in that field by establishing a programme that can systematically and effectively respond to the needs of African developing countries in improving their understanding and knowledge of the EPZ development, management and promotion.

473. The activities which UNIDO will undertake in the coming years in this field are expected to relate directly to the specific requests of African public and private enterprises. Focus for 1992-1993 will be on the elaboration of manuals or operation tools related to the development, management and promotion of export-processing zones, on industrial subcontracting policies and exchanges.

474. To enhance resource flows to Africa, UNIDO will continue to focus on the establishment of investment centres in Africa which would be linked to the UNIDO network of Investment Promotion Services and the development of sound programmes in appropriate institutions, especially development finance institutions for project identification, preparation and promotion. In this priority area, the main objective is to promote the direct mobilisation of financial resources and to develop and improve methods and systems for: (i) increasing the international flow of finance to productive industrial investment in developing countries; and (ii) financing technical cooperation activities that assist industrial development in these countries.

475. Regional investment programmes are also being implemented to provide advice to Governments on measures for improving the climate for foreign investors, to assist national investment promotion agencies, inter alia, by training their staff in investment promotion work, and to assist individual local investors in assembling data and disseminating that information to

potential partners. Investment forums and country presentation tours will be organized to promote contacts with financing institutions and in mobilizing funds to carry out pre-investment studies. A project related to exploring investment opportunities between developed and developing countries in the agro-food industry is being developed.

476. In this context, UNIDO is also elaborating a programme aimed at developing and using new mechanisms for mobilizing financial, managerial and technical resources for industrial development. To finance technical cooperation activities, it draws on different types of trust funds. It also uses enterprise-to-enterprise mechanisms, combining financial and technical cooperation in those instances where UNIDO provides supplementary assistance. It also works directly with development finance institutions in designing and implementing industrial projects.

477. The UNIDO System of Consultations which aims, inter alia, at identifying opportunities for investment in various subsectors covered will include in the coming years wood and wood products, food processing (specifically sugar-cane and vegetable processing), in addition to the pharmaceutical, electronics, petrochemicals, fertilizer, pesticides and building materials industries which were the subjects of previous consultations. In the area of small- and medium-scale enterprises, meetings will be organized to analyse, inter alia, the problems in least developed countries of ensuring small- and medium-scale industries access to sources of finance, while in the area of industrial rehabilitation, investment opportunities will be identified. Finally, UNIDO will contribute to the mobilization of financial resources by assisting potential entrepreneurs to select and acquire the best technologies for investment projects.

C. CREATING GLOBAL AWARENESS OF THE CRITICAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

(a) Issues, priorities and goals

478. From the very inception of UNPAAERD in 1986, the need to raise international awareness of the African economic crisis was recognized. That need has become particularly acute in the 1990s, given the international community's preoccupation with the dramatic changes and crises in strategic areas such as the Middle East, the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. It is vital, therefore, to create an effective public information strategy which will keep the world informed about the changes Africa is undertaking in the vital areas of democratization and economic and social policy reforms, and will alert the donor community to economic developments related to issues such as Africa's external debt, resource flows, commodity trends and investment opportunities. At the same time, African decision makers need to be kept abreast of the changing international realities and priorities, and of developments in other regions of the continent.

(b) Current and planned activities

United Nations

479. The United Nations Department of Public Information will highlight issues of African economic recovery, as enumerated in the "New Agenda", in the planning of its various outputs. The Department's video, radio and print productions will regularly focus on developments in and concerning Africa, and at the same time efforts will be made to interest the mass media of donor, African and other developing countries to do their own coverage of the most pressing issues.

480. Special attention will also be paid to the urgent requirements of Africa's long-term programmes for self-sustaining economic and social development, such as the gravity and complexity of the developmental challenge, the far-reaching efforts and reforms the continent's governments and people are undertaking in order to revive their economies, the need for increased external resources on which the success of many of these national efforts is dependent, and the improvements needed in the international trading environment to facilitate African recovery. Other important issues such as the need for greater regional cooperation and integration, the measures necessary for increasing domestic and foreign investment, and improving the market shares of Africa's export commodities, will also be highlighted.

481. The Department will pursue a multi-media approach, coordinated with the substantive economic departments of the United Nations Secretariat as well as the wider United Nations system, in its efforts to highlight the African crisis. These efforts will in particular result in the following specific outputs by the Department's Africa Recovery Unit:

- Africa Recovery: The centerpiece of the Department's information outreach will be the quarterly Africa Recovery, a publication which is targeted towards the media, and policy- and opinion-makers, including United Nations and government officials, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations, trade unions, universities and research institutes, and business leaders. Africa Recovery will track and present in an easy-to-read and accessible manner the most important economic developments within Africa and internationally, researching and drawing upon data produced by international as well as national bodies.

- Briefing papers: The Department will also produce briefing papers on selected issues of importance targeted towards a specialist audience of policy makers and research professionals. Topics which are expected to be covered in the current biennium include: (a) Environment and development; (b) Regional cooperation; (c) Foreign direct investment; (d) External debt; (e) Food security and self-sufficiency; (f) Industrialization policies; (g) Women; (h) Commodity trends, trade and economic diversification; (i) The impact of AIDS on economic development.

- Brochures/pamphlets: These will be produced in a more popular format for less specialized audiences - NGOs, parliamentarians, teachers, trade unions, business, etc. - on some of the above subjects.

- Mass media outreach: Given the growing importance and impact on policy of the media in both Africa and internationally, a crucial element of the information support programme will be outreach to the mass media to ensure their own independent coverage of African issues. Regular liaison will be maintained with the most important media and important trends and data on African development communicated to them. Specific publications, such as media kits, will be produced as needed to highlight specific United Nations activities or reports.

- In addition, articles will be written by the unit's staff for the major international and African newspapers, and video and radio programmes will be prepared by the Department for broadcast on established channels. Finally, two travelling journalists' seminars will be organized, so that the journalists can report in a well-informed and well-briefed manner on the efforts African governments are making to strengthen their economies, and on the severe constraints these efforts face.

- Speaking engagements/media interviews: Use of senior United Nations and African officials by the media and by organizers of important conferences and seminars will be encouraged wherever possible.

Resources available, and needed

482. In the 1990-1991 and current bienniums, regular budget allocations for the Africa Recovery Unit were included, but these cover only part of the cost of the core staff and outputs.

483. For the current biennium, the regular budget contains provisions for two Professional posts (P-5 Chief of Unit; P-3, editor of French editions of publications) and two General Service posts. The United Nations budget also provides $382,500 for all costs connected to the preparation, design, typesetting and printing of the quarterly Africa Recovery. In addition, two Professional staff and two General Service posts are financed from extrabudgetary contributions. There has been a severe decline in such contributions, however, a situation which is expected to deteriorate still further in the 1994-1995 biennium.

484. Therefore, if the UN-NADAF's specific request to the Secretary-General - i.e., to "ensure appropriate and adequate support for ... the continuation of the effective public information activities and mobilization of efforts to raise international awareness of the economic crisis in Africa" - is to be met, resources will have to be located to ensure the continued employment of two Professionals (P-4, Managing Editor; P-3, Staff Writer) and the two

General Service staff currently employed through extrabudgetary contributions. Failure to mobilize resources for these four posts will severely curtail the information activities being carried out by this Unit.

UNCTAD

485. The UNCTAD secretariat will continue to promote effective dissemination of information of its activities, in areas of particular interest to African countries, publications and participation in studies and in seminars. Published and other relevant material on UNCTAD's activities will be made available on a regular basis both directly to national administrations and to delegations in Geneva. The objective would be to sensitize international opinion on African issues as revealed by UNCTAD's research and analysis as well as to provide a feedback for the guidance of the secretariat in its contribution to the implementation of the System-wide Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development.

486. A number of comprehensive surveys and statistical reports on the African situation will be published for both planning purposes and for monitoring the socio-economic situation in Africa.

UNICEF

487. Apart from programmes developed at the country level, advocacy efforts aimed at highlighting opportunities and constraints facing African governments have been an important component of UNICEF programmes in Africa. This has been done through specific publications such as Children on the Front Line, Within Human Reach and Facts for Life and more recently through the World Summit for Children, and the various publications associated with it. Each of these efforts increased awareness of the socio-economic situation in Africa. Through support from its National Committees, UNICEF is also able to maintain a development education component and awareness building among constituencies in several of the industrialized countries.

488. UNICEF will work with the international media to draw attention to the problems of children in Africa and create an appropriate climate of support for them. In particular, the emphasis will be placed on modifying the overly negative images of Africa, through identifying and disseminating success stories and more balanced presentations. Workshops to share information and to better motivate and equip UNICEF National Committee Information Officers to support mobilization for Africa will be held. Africa will continue to figure prominently in the annual joint Division of Information/National Committee information workplan which outlines information strategy and anticipated activities. The Division of Public Affairs will give special attention to targeted initiatives such as the OAU Charter for the African Child, the 1992 OAU International Conference on Assistance to African Children.

World Bank

489. The World Bank engages in many activities that help to promote the creation of global awareness of the critical socio-economic and environmental situation in Africa. Major instruments include the Bank's annual World Development Reports (the 1992 report deals with environment and development), support provided to the Development Committee and Global Coalition for Africa, major addresses on African issues presented around the world by senior Bank managers, and a large volume of economic, sectoral and regional studies. The Bank also produces the "African Region Bluebook" and the "Africa Technical Department Regional Studies Programme" which inventorize Bank-managed economic and sectoral studies.

UNDP

490. Activities of the UNDP in this area include (i) the sensitization of the international community to Africa's development problems through its attendance at conferences, seminars at academic and financial institutions and presenting the concerns of Africa; (ii) the sensitization of donors through encouraging multi-bi initiatives for Africa priority concerns. UNDP also assists in the strengthening of public information activities of the United Nations system in support of Africa through support to the secretariat of the Africa Recovery Steering Committee which produces Africa Recovery. It also works towards the intensification of cooperation between the United Nations system and non-African and African NGOs for the development of the continent.

491. The African situation has been on the agenda of the UNDP Governing Council each year since 1987, thus focusing the Council's discussion on the needs of Africa at each annual meeting.

492. UNDP also supports the countries in the Africa region in preparing environmental strategies and action plans for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). UNDP will be working with the countries in implementing the programmes that will emerge from UNCED.

UNFPA

493. UNFPA has continuously strived to sensitize the world community of the critical population and development issues in Africa. It has carried out these efforts principally through various public information channels, by support to special conferences, the organization of special information/study tours and the intensification of cooperation with NGOs. Some of these activities include the following:

- Public information efforts: the inclusion of articles specifically on the Africa situation in UNFPA informational publications, videos and other materials for public dissemination; contributions by UNFPA to the production of African Recovery Briefing Papers; publication of special booklets on the African situation, e.g., African Women; for the past two years, the UNFPA Executive Director has announced

the annual World Population Day (11 July) from two African countries: 1990, Ethiopia; 1991, United Republic of Tanzania; and the organization of seminars to sensitize journalists on the critical population and development issues in Africa.

- Support to special conferences: UNFPA co-sponsored (with the World Bank) the International Conference on Development and Rapid Population Growth - A New Look to the Future of Africa, September 1991 (Paris, France).

- Study tours: a significant percentage of UNFPA-funded country projects contain support for study tours by Africans to other countries within and outside the African continent. These study tours serve to sensitize non-Africans to specific technical issues confronting Africa.

- UNFPA also provides information and, as appropriate, financial assistance for awareness-creation study tours by national leaders (e.g., parliamentarians) from other regions to African countries.

- Intensification of cooperation between the UNFPA and NGOs: Over 10 per cent of UNFPA assistance goes to NGOs; on a yearly basis UNFPA convenes a special consultation meeting with NGOs on population issues; UNFPA is developing an inventory/roster of indigenous NGOs and international NGOs with population-related experience in Africa in order to promote the utilization of such NGOs for programme implementation.

UNCHS

494. In order to create global awareness, UNCHS (Habitat) disseminates its work through related publications such as those of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless - 1987 and the follow-up Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, the Urban Management Programme, etc.

495. UNCHS (Habitat) is also presently developing an Integrated Information System to support technical cooperation in Human Settlements. This information system will ultimately provide access to comprehensive databases consisting of information generated by all UNCHS (Habitat) operational and research activities. The development of these databases is also directly focused on national capacity-building through linkages with both public sector institutions and with universities, national research institutions and national NGOs. Management systems which are being developed with UNCHS (Habitat) assistance at the national level to support policy-making and programming processes, will also be linked into this Technical Cooperation Information Systems to facilitate exchange among countries of the latest ideas and approaches to the development and management of human settlement.

FAO

496. In order to provide the world community with an opportunity to look critically at the continuing problems of hunger, malnutrition and diet-related disease and how they can most effectively be addressed, an International Conference on Nutrition (ICN), co-sponsored by FAO and WHO, is to be convened in Rome in December 1992. It will be preceded by a series of studies and regional meetings designed to draw upon the countries themselves for self-analyses of the problems and proposed actions to address these problems. ICN regional preparatory meetings in Africa are scheduled for Anglophone Africa (Nairobi) and Francophone Africa (Dakar, Senegal) in the first quarter of 1992.

497. FAO will continue to monitor and report on the critical situation facing the African countries through its annual publication, the "State of Food and Agriculture" (SOFA). A Special Chapter of the 1990 edition of SOFA was devoted to structural adjustment and agriculture, in which the situation in Africa and the issues arising from implementing structural adjustment programmes in the region received particular attention. The 1991 Special Chapter similarly analyses the development experiences of the 1980s with special focus on Africa as a step to assessing the prospects for the 1990s, the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

498. FAO will also continue to assess, monitor and report on agricultural and food supply conditions and food needs through its Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS). GIEWS is responsible for alerting governments and the international community to any deterioration of the food production and supply situation which threatens food security, signalling problems which may be man-made or due to natural causes. The system also draws attention to the problems which arise from sudden increases in food production and supply, necessitating exceptional external assistance to dispose of the surplus through triangular transactions.

WFC

499. As part of a major information campaign to raise international awareness of Africa's food insecurity and to ensure appropriate and adequate support for WFC's initiatives in Africa, the Council called for close cooperation between the WFC Secretariat and NGOs. Thus for the current biennium, three WFC/NGO media seminars will be organized in Africa at a cost of US$ 75,000.

ILO

500. In recognition of the crisis situation in the African region, and with a view to highlighting the critical socio-economic and environmental implications as a basis for action at both the international and national levels, the ILO Bureau of Public Information has for some time now been producing a "Focus on Africa" supplement with the French and English editions of the widely circulated ILO Information which is published ten times a year. In addition, selected articles are also distributed by the Bureau to the media

in many African and industrialized countries and the Africa Recovery magazine for wider dissemination. A film on the critical situation in Africa during missions carried out by the Bureau in 1991 will be distributed widely to TV stations around the world. The Bureau will also organize a major photographic mission to the region (in collaboration with UNDP) in 1992. This will form the basis for mounting displays and exhibitions on the African situation at appropriate venues.

501. Results and findings of ILO's research and technical cooperation activities are also regularly reported and made available in published form to the general public and institutions in both the developing and developed world. These publications have more recently focused increasingly and sharply on the African situation.

WHO

502. WHO will also continue to give high priority in its public information activities to programmes in support of Africa and will publicize information of special importance to Africa's health, for example on the role of women, malaria control, nutrition and disaster response and preparedness.

UNIDO

503. The main activities being implemented by UNIDO in order to create greater awareness of the critical socio-economic situation in Africa are the (a) Africa Industrialization Day, (b) industrial development review series and (c) other promotional activities.

504. The African Industrialization Day is intended to make national decision makers and entrepreneurs as well as representatives of the international community aware of the importance of industry in the development process in each African country. The "Day" aims also at making the African public more aware of the role of science and technology in economic development. The Day is celebrated on 20 November each year, starting in 1990, on a selected theme.

505. The programme of Industrial Development Review Series provides a general survey and comprehensive analysis of each country's industrial development process and industrial opportunities. The reviews are designed to serve as an informative and analytical document for the government and the international industrial community with a wide readership associated with industry, finance, trade, business, media and research. The coverage of the African continent for 1990-1991 included: Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Namibia, Swaziland and Uganda. UNIDO plans to carry out four to six industrial development reviews for each biennium depending on the availability of resources.

506. UNIDO plans to produce feature articles and audio-visual material focusing on the priority areas in the medium-term plan. Specific Decade-related public information campaigns will be launched in connection with the eleventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the fifth session of the General Conference of UNIDO. The programme for

the second Decade will also be attractively packaged and widely distributed, thus helping to increase awareness and support for the programme and its objectives. Active participation by UNIDO in the All-Africa Trade Fair in 1992 will be another means of publicizing the goals and objectives of the Second IDDA, as well as the activities of UNIDO and the services it can provide to African countries. In the UNIDO budget 1992-1993, US$ 250,000 have been allocated for the popularization activities; additional resources in the order of US$ 250,000-1,000,000 would be required.

WFP

507. WFP will continue to accord high priority to the needs of Africa in its public information activities. The programme will continue to sensitize the international community through its weekly telexes on emergency food needs, its journal, special studies and meetings with the NGO community.

V. RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS TO AFRICA BY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

508. Information on past and planned expenditures by organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system for activities relating to Africa for the period 1990-1995 appear in table I. Organizations of the system concerned essentially with development financing such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are reported separately in table II since they are lending institutions while the organizations covered in table I provide grants. Both tables also include a column that seeks to indicate the level of additional resources that will be required by the organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system in order to implement fully the elements of the plan of action. Not all organizations have been able to provide figures on this score: thus that part of the table should be read with a certain amount of caution.

509. Furthermore, as noted in paragraph 10 above, the resource information contained in this section is not available in a uniform and standardized format on a system-wide basis. Secondly, in the case of many programmes, projects and activities with a world-wide or interregional scope it is difficult to identify components that are specific to one region or another. Thirdly, in a number of areas, the information is not complete, and in particular, in the case of future years, a number of organizations, especially those that depend on voluntary contributions are unable to provide indications of projected resources likely to be available for the latter years of the 1990s.

510. As table I indicates, just under $2 billion was allocated from the budgets of the various organs, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system towards economic and social development programmes for Africa in each year of the last biennium. The figure increased only marginally to $2.1 billion a year for the current biennium. In table II it is reported that the three main lending institutions, IBRD, IMF and IFAD committed $7.2 billion in 1990 and $8.9 billion in 1991. For the current biennium, the figure excluding the IMF (which due to the nature of its operations cannot project future allocations) is reported to be $5.2 billion and $6.0 billion for 1992 and 1993 respectively.

511. When figures from both tables are combined it can be seen that in 1990 and 1991 $9 billion and $10.9 billion respectively were allocated by the reporting organizations of the United Nations system to activities relating to African countries. The figures for the current biennium 1992-1993 (excluding the IMF and WFP) are $7.2 billion and $8.1 billion and $8 billion for each year of the next biennium 1994-1995. Although these figures are mere projections they are far from adequate in relation to the scale of the problem at hand.

512. The figures in the tables represent a high level of uncertainty, particularly for the period beyond the end of the current biennium and it has not been possible to have more precise projections since a number of organs, agencies and bodies were not in a position to indicate the level of resources likely to be available in the remaining years of the biennium and beyond.

513. For example, for the biennium 1990-1991 the World Bank has been committing approximately $4 billion a year to African countries. However, the World Bank envisages that for the current biennium this figure will be maintained, and increased to approximately $5 billion during the remainder of the 1990s. It needs to be recognized, however, that the issue of additional IBRD financial resources for African countries is related to the economic management performance, governance and overall "aid-worthiness" of the countries themselves. For IBRD-eligible countries, moreover, the level of IBRD lending is also contingent upon the creditworthiness of those countries.

514. The IMF provided US$ 1.9 billion and $3.8 billion in lending assistance to African countries in 1990 and 1991. Given the nature of its operation it has not been in a position to provide projections of anticipated expenditures. If, however, the progress towards good governance and increased popular participation in development presently being achieved were to continue, it can be anticipated that more attempts by an increased number of African countries at major socio-economic reform which could lead to increased requests for assistance from the IMF.

TABLE I.

PAST AND PLANNED EXPENDITURES
BY ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA (Both RB & XB)
(In millions of US Dollars)

ORGANIZATION	1990	1991	1992	1993	** 1994	** 1995	ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED
U.N	80.00	85.00	*	*	*	*	
ECA	42.70	42.70	50.56	50.56	*	*	
UNCTAD			5.70	4.00	4.00	4.00	
UNCHS	19.50	21.40	22.80	22.80	24.50	24.50	37.00
UNEP	3.90	4.81	2.62	1.58	*	*	
UNDCP	1.50	6.20	7.63	7.20	*	*	*
WFP	467.2	807.90	850.00	850.00	900.00	900.00	*
WFC			0.23	*	*	*	
UNDP a/	469.23	466.65	471.36	473.15	448.15	448.65	*
UNFPA a/	66.66	66.34	61.22	66.20	73.54	69.12	494.00
UNICEF	234.00	232.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	1,000.00
FAO	234.00	231.00	241.00	240.00	*	*	*
ILO	89.47	94.50	103.20	108.40	113.50	119.70	46.50
WHO	136.46	136.46	146.70	146.70	146.00	146.00	*
UNESCO	6.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	*	*	*
WMO	19.02	19.30	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.00	*
IMO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ICAO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
UNIDO	54.10	54.10	89.00	89.00	*	*	24.00
ITU	17.77	14.00	9.33	*	*	*	*
IAEA	9.74	9.22	10.73	*	*	*	*
WIPO	1.67	1.38	1.38	1.21	*	*	*
TOTAL a/	1,886.22	1,994.52	2,093.46	2,076.74	1,939.49	1,643.17	1,571.49

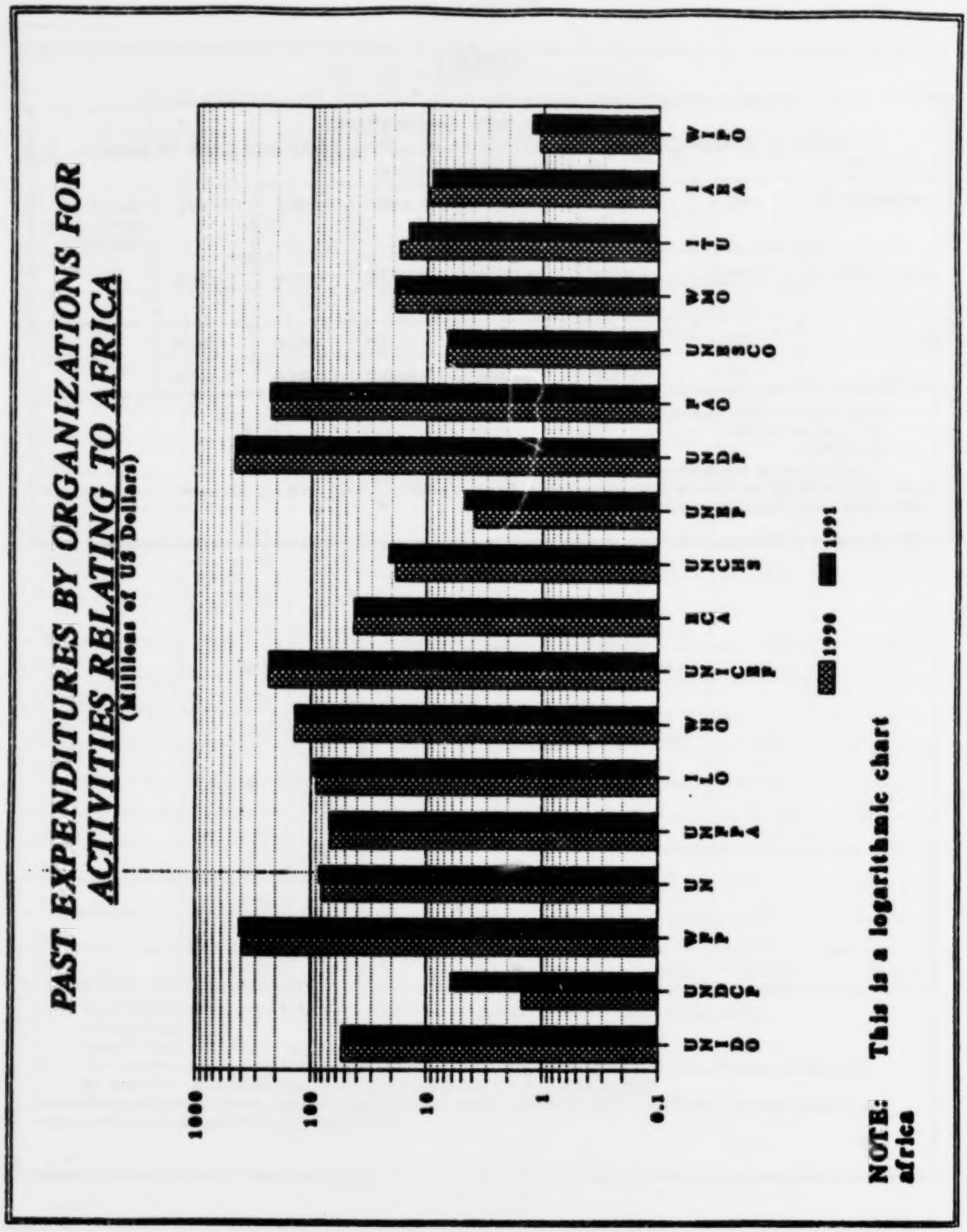
a/: Figures for UNDP and UNFPA are not included in the overall totals in order to avoid double-counting
* : Not available
** : figures in these columns are merely estimated projections
UN : The UN refers mainly to the UN Secretariat and includes former DTCD, DIESA, CTC, CSTD , DPI and CSDHA/UNOV for 1990-1991. As of March 1992, the U.N. refers to DESD, DPI and CSDHA/UNOV.
Source: Compiled by the Department of Economic and Social Development of the UNITED NATIONS Secretariat based on data received from contributing agencies and organizations.

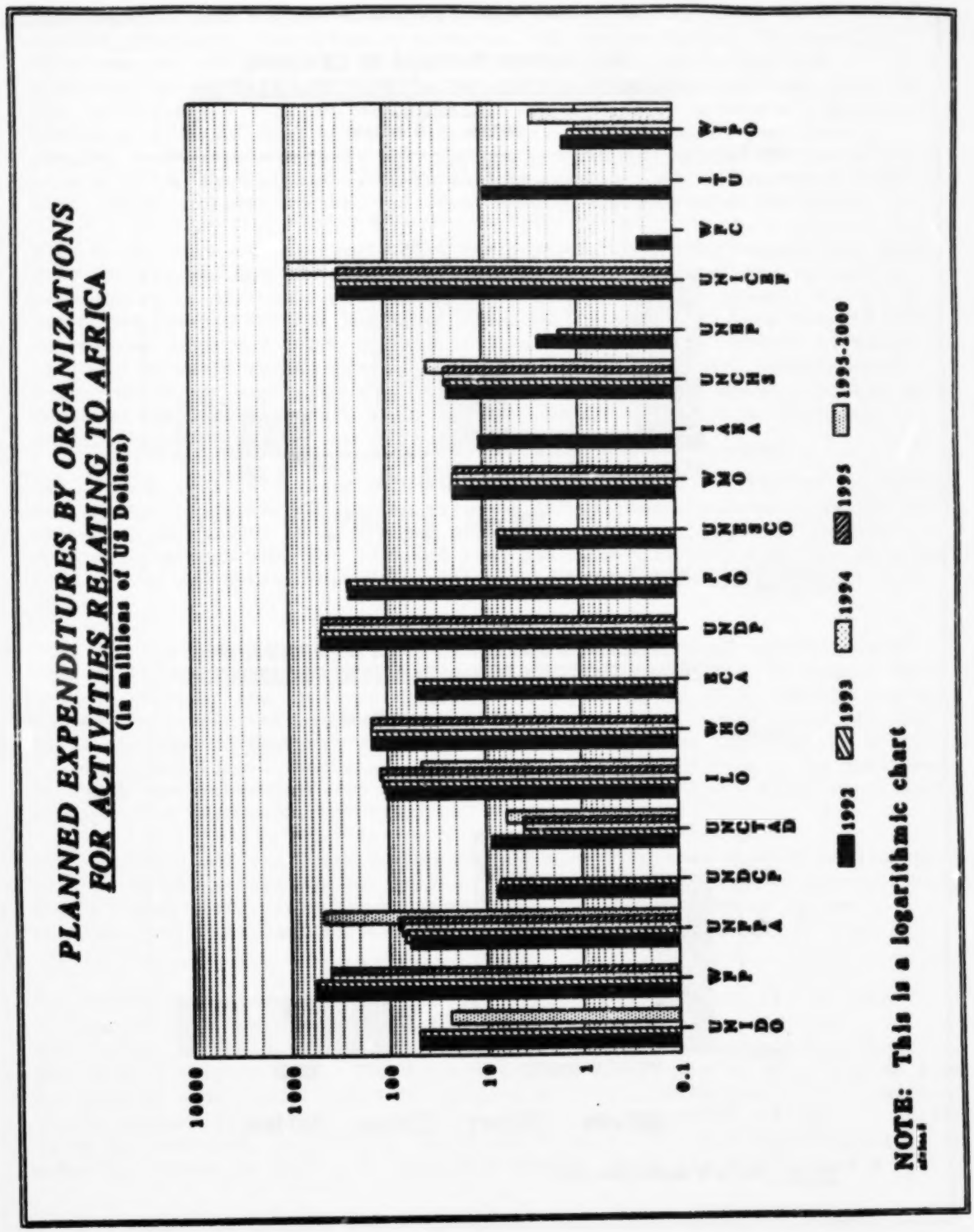
TABLE II.

PAST AND PLANNED EXPENDITURES
BY LENDING ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA (Both RB & XB)
(In millions of US Dollars)

ORGANIZATION	1990	1991	1992	** 1993	** 1994	** 1995	ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED
WORLD BANK 1/	3,900.00	3,650.00	3,700.00	4,500.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
IMF 2/	1,883.80	3,788.30	*	*	*	*	
IFAD	1,398.30	1,502.80	1,502.80	1,502.80	1,502.80	1,502.80	
TOTAL	7,178.10	8,942.10	5,202.80	6,002.80	6,502.80	6,502.80	

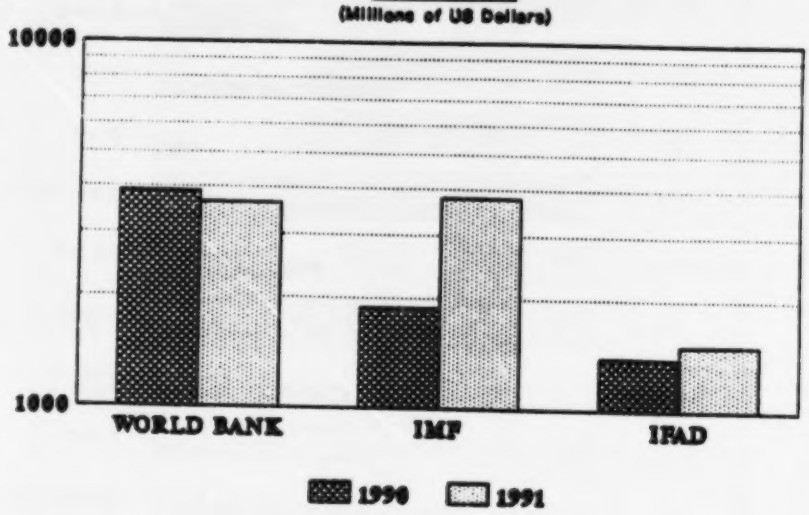
1/: Figures apply to IBRD's fiscal years: e.g., for FY 1992 covers the period July 1991 - 3rd June 1992.
2/: IMF figures are in SDRs
*: Not available
**: Figures in these columns are merely anticipated projections
Source: Compiled by the Department of Economic and Social Development of the UNITED NATIONS Secretariat based on data received from contributing agencies and organizations.


PAST EXPENDITURES BY ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA
(Millions of US Dollars)
1000
100
10
1
0.1
1990
1991
NOTE: This is a logarithmic chart
africa


PLANNED EXPENDITURES BY ORGANIZATIONS
FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA
(In millions of US Dollars)
10000
1000
100
10
1
0.1
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996-2000
NOTE: This is a logarithmic chart

PAST EXPENDITURES BY LENDING ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA

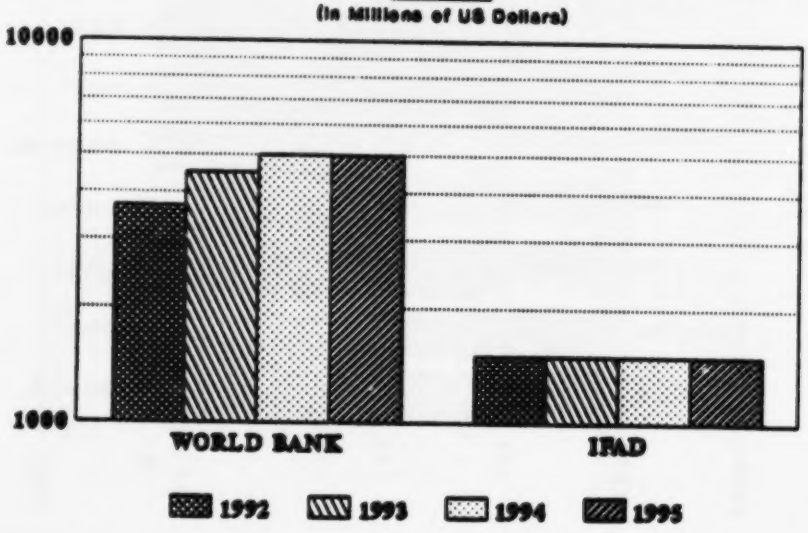
(Millions of US Dollars)



NOTE: This is a logarithmic chart
africa2:31/5/91

PLANNED EXPENDITURES BY LENDING ORGANIZATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO AFRICA

(In Millions of US Dollars)



NOTE: This is a logarithmic chart

515. In the case of IFAD, it has mobilized resources, in addition to its regular programme, specifically earmarked for Africa through the Special Programme for sub-Saharan African countries affected by Drought and Desertification. IFAD has also had access to the Belgian Survival Fund for the third world - thus for the 1990-1991 biennium IFAD committed resources for Africa of $1.4 and $1.5 billion respectively. It envisages that future lending to the region, given its critical economic situation and the crucial role that the agricultural sectors need to play in economic recovery efforts will remain at least at the same level through the middle of the 1990s.

516. In the case of the non-lending institutions reporting figures the UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, FAO and WHO have provided the largest share of the resources transferred to African countries during the last biennium as well as resources committed for the current and next bienniums. However, figures for the UNDP as well as those for UNFPA are not included in the overall totals of table I in order to avoid double counting, since a number of organs, agencies and bodies which are executing agencies for UNDP and UNFPA-financed projects have reported the extrabudgetary resources they have received from these two funding organizations.

517. During 1991, the World Food Programme spent a total of US$ 808 million on development projects, protracted refugees and displaced persons projects and emergency operations in 49 African countries. WFP has projected figures of $850 million each year for 1992 and 1993 and $600 million a year for 1994 and 1995 on the assumption that needs for relief food aid in the continent will reduce.

518. For the past and current biennium UNICEF has allocated approximately $450 million and $600 million respectively. It projects that it should be able to maintain the level of $600 million a year up to 1995. UNICEF has also stated that their best estimates indicate that child-oriented goals for the 1990s can best be achieved with approximately $7 billion annually for all of sub-Saharan Africa. Thus significantly more funds would have to be mobilized by UNICEF and other parts of the United Nations system for activities targeted to improving the welfare of children.

519. In 1990-1991 the World Health Organization allocated $138.45 million per year to health programmes for Africa. It has indicated needs of approximately $145 million a year in order to improve the health environment on the continent of Africa and achieve the goal of good health for all by the year 2000.

520. UNFPA has reported that since the beginning of UNPAAERD it has been increasing its financial support to both country and regional Africa activities. In 1990 and 1991 the amounts allocated were $66 million and $69 million respectively. UNFPA projects that the figure to be allocated from its regular budget will reach $80 million by 1995. UNFPA has also stated that if the constraining factor on economic growth of population increase in Africa is to be contained, programming funds will have to increase significantly. In order to attempt to partially meet this demand, UNFPA has established a

Resource Development Unit which consults with individual donor Governments to obtain extrabudgetary funding. In 1990, $7.4 million and in 1991 $8 million was channelled to projects in sub-Saharan Africa. In order to meet programme needs well into the middle of the decade, UNFPA estimates that roughly $50 million in extrabudgetary funding will be required.

521. UNIDO has allocated $54.1 million in 1990 and 1991 towards industrial development activities in Africa. The figure has remained virtually the same for the current biennium. UNIDO has stated that it is not in a position to estimate the level of resources it is likely to be able to make available for the remaining years of the biennium. For the implementation of the IDDA programme, which is the main vehicle for UNIDO programme activities in Africa, UNIDO has stated that additional resources would be needed to achieve the objectives of the programme. Since UNIDO funds allocated for the IDDA programme amounts to $8.6 million for the biennium 1992-1993, which can finance activities for about the level of $150,000 for each African country, and about $200,000 for each subregion, extrabudgetary resources estimated at about $19 million for each biennium would be needed in order to boost the implementation of the programme. This works out to approximately $350,000 for each country and $300,000 for each subregion.

522. WMO foresees the need for resources in the order of $20 million a year in strengthening the national and regional capabilities of the African Governments in its areas of competence.

VI. COORDINATION

523. The impact of the programmes and activities of the various parts of the United Nations system is likely to be maximized if the response of the system is well coordinated and these programmes and activities are implemented in such a way as to produce cohesive and well integrated action. This underlines the importance of coordination and cooperation among all parts of the system in the implementation of the system-wide plan of action.

524. To this end, the existing ACC machinery provides adequate opportunities for close consultations and cooperation among the organs, agencies and bodies of the system. CCSQ(PROG) and CCSQ(OPS) could be used as system-wide forums for developing coordinated approaches on the programmatic and operational aspects of the implementation of the Plan. Furthermore, a number of ACC bodies, e.g., the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, the ACC SubCommittee on Nutrition could be used to examine ways of enhancing cooperation and coordination in specific areas of the Plan such as food and agriculture. There would, however, be need for the institution of a systematic and regular exchange of information among the various parts of the United Nations system concerning their current and planned activities. To this end, the United Nations could serve as a clearing house, in the light of its coordinating responsibility for ensuring effective response by the United Nations system to the African situation.

525. Moreover, other ad hoc and flexible forms of cooperation and coordination will be used. Some agencies have indicated that they already have in place a number of ways and means by which they cooperate and collaborate with various United Nations agencies. For example, with respect to coordination at the African intergovernmental level, ECA will continue to promote and further enhance the collaborative approach in the implementation of regional activities through its established subsidiary organs including: the ECA Conference of African Ministers responsible for economic planning and development; the Conference of African Ministers of Finance; the Conference of African Ministers of Industry; the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications; the Inter-governmental Ministerial Committee on Human Settlements and Environment; and the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs. The World Bank group referred to the ongoing in-country exchanges of information and views among Resident Representative and local mission staff of the Bank and the United Nations. There is also the annual meeting between the United Nations system and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to review progress in various cooperation programmes. The Bank sponsored Consultative Groups and UNDP-sponsored Round Tables also present other opportunities for a number of United Nations agencies and organizations to come together to discuss and collaborate African development related issues.

526. The co-sponsorship of initiatives by a number of organizations such as the Social Dimensions of Adjustment projects, the African Capacity Building Foundation, the Special Programme of African Agricultural Research and a World Bank-executed project to produce economic and financial data on African countries present additional opportunities for coordination. There is also the co-funding of projects by parts of the United Nations. system which comprise the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (UNDP, UNICEF, IFAD and UNFPA) in order to promote cost-effective management and complementarity of programmes. UNFPA has indicated that this mechanism has helped to strengthen the co-ordination of population and development activities.

527. Inter-agency collaboration could also be built around defined programme goals which represent priorities of the recipient countries and its partners. For example, UNICEF's goals and strategies for the 1990s developed with WHO and others provide a framework for coordinated action but is also adaptable to country-specific needs. Similarly, the Jomtien Conference on Education set out goals that were endorsed by UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP and the World Bank.

528. There are normal consultations between agencies as well as annual meetings of United Nations bodies which are usually attended by representatives of other parts of the system, and which present opportunities for further policy dialogue. Finally there is the Global Coalition for Africa (GCA) at which there is a participation of the World Bank and some United Nations organizations and agencies, including ECA as well as other partners involved in African development, especially the Organization of African Unity.

VII. REVIEW AND MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION

529. It will be necessary to regularly monitor and assess actions taken by the United Nations system and to report to the relevant intergovernmental bodies on progress achieved on the implementation of the plan of action. It is envisaged that the working group of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Africa's Critical Economic Situation, Recovery and Development, will soon finalise the agreement upon terms of reference of the IATF which includes inter alia appropriate monitoring processes.

530. Reporting of follow-up action to the Plan to respective governing bodies will be undertaken by the concerned secretariats, according to their established arrangements. In addition to this inter-agency review, it will be necessary for the Executive Heads of sectoral agencies to submit monitoring reports to their respective intergovernmental bodies. In that regard, a number of agencies have mentioned the importance of the need to monitor the implementation of the Plan of Action, and in some instances have indicated the nature of the actions they propose to undertake. For example, the ILO has stated that institutional arrangements for review and regular monitoring of the Plan of Action would revolve around the ILO Regional Office for Africa under the direction of the Assistant Director-General responsible for ILO activities in Africa. The Regional Office in this respect will be serviced by ILO network of area offices which are responsible for country-level operations.

531. The review and monitoring exercises in the context of ILO activities would also reflect the tripartite structure of the organization when appropriate, especially with respect to the effects of project implementation on different socio-economic groups. ILO specifically indicated that account will also be taken by the ILO of possibilities for meaningful inter-agency cooperation in the review and monitoring of the Plan.

532. With respect to UNIDO, its contribution to the implementation of the United Nations System Plan of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development (UN-NADAF) would be subject to reports submitted for review to the UNIDO Industrial Development Board (IDB), to the UNIDO General Conference and to the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI).

Notes

1/ A fundamental right enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.